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Issue No 26

Available from Wednesday,
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STAND 14
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www.discoverfolkestone.co.uk

DISCOVER GRAVEHAM

STAND 46
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www.hevercastle.co.uk

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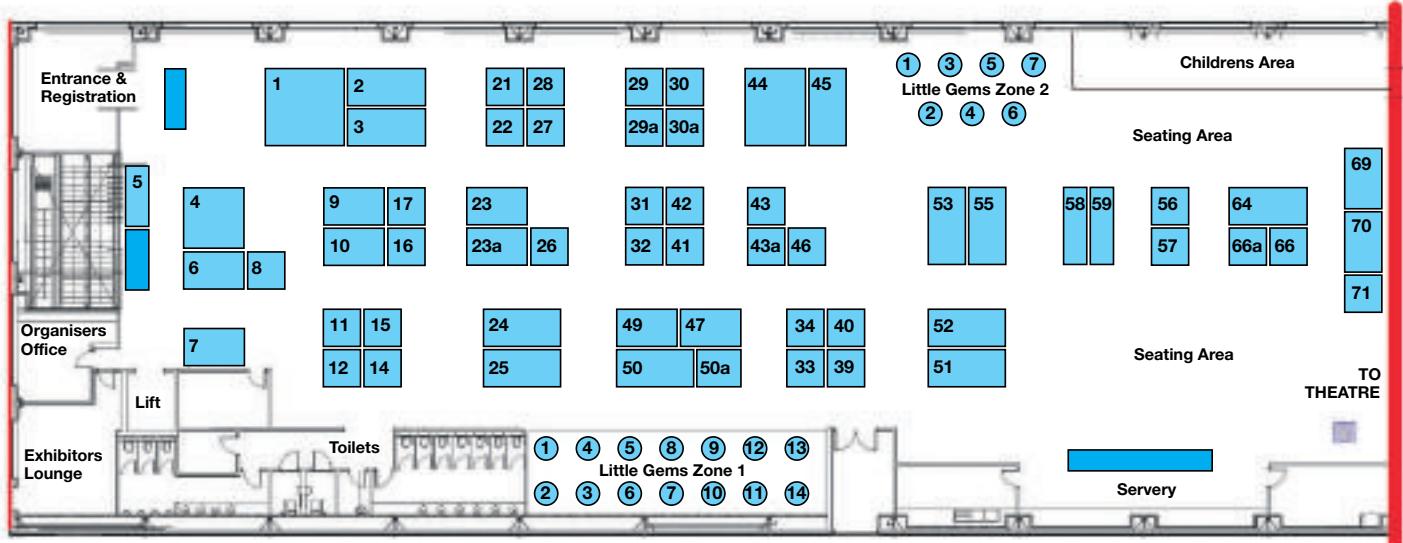
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EX-MANAGER BANNED FROM PRIESTFIELD

Scally tells former Gillingham FC ladies' team boss 'stay away'

EXCLUSIVE

BY JON COATES



V

ANGRY: Paul Scally has banned Darren Keating

THE former manager of Gillingham Ladies Football Club has been banned from the Priestfield Stadium after being accused of berating a young referee.

Darren Keating, 41, is alleged to have chastised the 15-year-old official over his time-keeping for the under-16 match between Gillingham Girls and Chelsea Girls, while posing as a Gills FC official.

Mr Keating, who is also a qualified referee, has been banned for a minimum of a year from the League One club's premises and activities, by Gills chairman Paul Scally.

But he denies all the allegations and is outraged that he has been summarily punished without an investigation by the AFA and without being able to put his side of the story across.

He fears he is the victim of mistaken identity as he did not confront the young referee or question his decisions.

Mr Keating said: "I did nothing which would compromise my position as a referee and as manager of Gills ladies."

The accounts manager from Chatham says he had been watching the under-16 girls game at Cobham in Surrey on February 16 as an invited guest of Tina Mapes, the director of excellence for Gillingham Girls.

In the letter banning him from the Priestfield Stadium, Mr Scally says: "It is reported that you confronted the referee both on the pitch at half-time and in the changing room after the match, and berated him over his time-keeping for the game.

"At the time you were wearing a replica Gillingham FC tracksuit, marked with your initials, and implied you were in some way connected with the club."

He added: "The fact that the referee was left with the impression that you were connected to the club has cast a slur on the good name of Gillingham FC, which I am not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Picture PHIL HOUGHTON

TEAM HONOUR HAYDEN

The family of Blues fan Hayden Waller have been sent a fitting tribute by Chelsea FC.

The Howard School pupil fell into a crevasse trying to save a friend on a school skiing trip to the Austrian Alps during half-term.

When Chelsea officials heard of his tragic death they were so moved that they got all the players to sign a shirt and sent it to the family home in Hartly Avenue, Wigmore, before his funeral.

Hayden, 12, was laid to rest during an emotional service in Rainham attended by hundreds of family, friends and classmates on Monday.

FULL STORY AND PICTURES SEE PAGE 3.

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Caroline Flint visits Rochester Riverside to see how the regeneration is unfolding

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- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| COMPETITION..... | PAGE 15 |
| LEISURE | PAGES 18-28 |
| PROPERTY | PAGES 29-34 |
| JOBS | PAGES 46-54 |
| BUSINESS | PAGES 57 |

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2 February's Kent business round-up with our business editor Tony Patey. See the business channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk



3 Motoring guru Steve Loader checks out the new Land Rover Freelander. See the motoring channel @ Yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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£400,000 our loss thanks to benefit cheats

■ BY JON COATES

BENEFIT cheats drained more than £400,000 of taxpayers' money from council coffers last year.

Yourmedway last week launched a campaign to stop fraudsters taking money from your pockets which could go to the community.

We have teamed up with Medway council to expose the con-artists who plague society in a crackdown called 'Your Money - Your Loss'.

As part of the drive we are asking our readers to help root out the benefit cheats who take money they do not deserve.

Swindling

Today we can reveal that 90 offenders were caught in Medway last year after swindling more than £400,000 in benefits.

Experts say it is hard to put an exact figure on the drain of our cash as we do not know how many people are getting away with it, but that is why you have to take a stand against the cheats.

During the last year 41 people were prosecuted for benefit fraud, 46 were formally cautioned and three received administrative penalties.

The £400,000 plus conned out of your welfare system came in housing



CRACKDOWN ON THE BENEFIT CHEATS

benefit, council tax benefit, income support and job seekers allowance.

The council will always prosecute offenders when there is enough evidence and typical sentences include community punishment orders – but five people were jailed for benefit fraud last year.

Duncan Warmington, Medway council's senior investigator for counterfeit and corruption, said the public need to protect their welfare system like they would the NHS.

He said: "This is their system, this is the welfare state and we should be proud of it.

"I have spent 12 months out of work before and I claimed benefits. I was very grateful for having this to fall back on.

"Unfortunately, there are a small minority who look to abuse it, so this is why it is worth defending."

"People talk about our NHS. Well, it is also their welfare system."

And the investigator issued this stark warning to the benefit cheats: "One day we will catch up with you."

• If you know a fraudster call the council's benefits investigation team on 01634 332305 or leave a message on its benefit fraud hotline on 0800 083 7049.

'Parents witnessed I didn't talk to referee'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT
prepared to tolerate."

Mr Scally has notified the Kent FA and the police of the ban imposed.

Mr Keating has sent a letter in response to Mr Scally and is waiting for a reply from him.

In it he says: "I have parents who witnessed that I did speak to the referee at half-time and that was only to offer him a drink."

"I did not at half-time or after the game berate him over his time-keeping, as I am for your information currently an active class 1 referee myself and have been for 12 years – and I would never have treated a fellow referee with such a lack of respect."

"I can, however, confirm to you that as the referee left the field of play, I did in front of everyone introduce myself to the referee and congratulate him on a good game."

He added: "I am concerned that despite a lack of investigation you have deemed it necessary to take such drastic action in reporting the matter to the Kent County Football Association and the police, and furthermore ban me from any event related to Gillingham Football Club."

"I am requesting that you lift this ban until the relevant investigations have been conducted and my innocence proved."

When contacted by Yourmedway Mr Scally said: "I do not know if I want to say anything more about this."

Gillingham Ladies FC play their home games at Larkfield and New Hythe ground in Larkfield and train at Anchorman Sports Ground in Gillingham.

Mr Keating stepped down as manager of the ladies team two weeks ago, saying they lack ambition to move up the leagues. He is looking to form another ladies team next year.

He referees Kent League games and was in charge of the FA Cup qualifier between Faversham and Lancing this year.

Jools on display at the castle

ROCK legends Status Quo and pianist Jools Holland will headline this year's Castle Concerts.

The line-up for the annual music event in Rochester Castle Gardens was announced yesterday.

The concerts will kick off on Wednesday July 16 with a Soul Party headlined by The Edwin Starr Band, with Brenda Edwards and The Soul Traders.

Talented musician Jools Holland, who lives in Cooling, will bring His Rhythm and Blues Orchestra to the castle for its sixth appearance on the next evening.

He will be joined by special guests Marc Almond, Gilson Lavis, Ruby Turner and Louise Marshall.

The Friday night will see the return of Status Quo, whose last appearance in 2005 sold out in days.

And for the grand finale there will be the Castle Proms on Saturday, July 19, with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, water fountains and fireworks.

Community services councillor, Howard Doe, said: "I am very excited about this year's acts. The concerts have always been popular and I believe this year will be no different."

Tickets for the four concerts will go on sale next Wednesday (March 12) at 10am and will be available online through the Central and Brook Theatre box office, or by calling 01634 338338.



CONCERT: Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra will play at Rochester Castle

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Grieving town says goodbye to Hayden

■ BY IAN READ

HERO schoolboy Hayden Waller, who died trying to save a friend, was laid to rest this week as a town united in grief.

The 12-year-old pupil at the Howard School in Rainham was killed in a tragic accident in the Austrian Alps two weeks ago.

Friends and family met up at historic St Margaret's Church to sing the praises of the cheeky little lad who touched many hearts.

Hayden plunged to his death during a school skiing trip at the resort of Mallnitz. He lost his footing trying to stop a friend from falling and fell 30ft on to rocks in a crevasse.



Hundreds packed into the church for the emotional service.

Many wore pink shirts, ties or dresses because it is the signature colour of the Make A Wish Foundation, which Hayden's parents were supporting.

His coffin was carried in by six family members after police escorted the convoy of hearses to the church.

There were flowers from family and friends, plus tributes to the football-mad youngster from Chelsea and Gillingham football clubs.

In his address, the Vicar of Rainham Canon Alan Voulsen said he didn't know Hayden, but would have liked to have done.

He said the community had been shocked by the youngster's death.

"Hayden was the sort of son people would give their right arm for," the vicar said. "He could relate to people across the generations. Let's thank god for that young man."

Canon Voulsen added that in his brief life Hayden had touched many people.

A succession of friends and relatives, some tearfully, told of the happy lad who had a business making cookies, who loved football and music, and loved to sing.

His aunt Nichola Little said Hayden was a noisy, adventurous lad: "You never knew what he was getting up to."

He told his cousin that only real men wore pink, because it was the new black. She said he would leave a huge gap in their lives.

Hayden's schoolfriends were given special permission to attend the funeral and the Howard School closed as a mark of respect.

Among the mourners was Gillingham FC chairman Paul Scally and manager Mark Stimson.

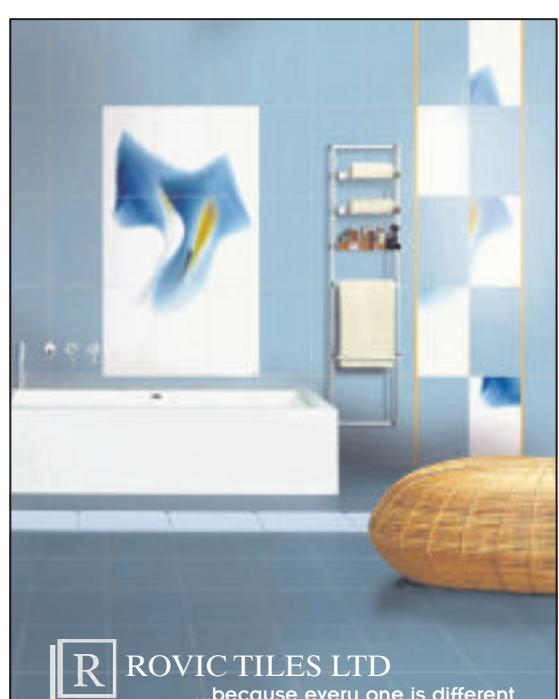
Shoppers in Rainham High Street were able to hear the service on loud speakers – some were openly crying.

After the service Hayden was laid to rest in a quiet corner of the churchyard watched by close family and friends.

An inquest into his death has been opened and adjourned, while both Medway council and the school are conducting their own investigations into the fatal accident.



TOUCHING: Mum Hayley and brother Aaron, along with many other mourners wore pink for Hayden. Above, dad Gary leads family members carrying the coffin from the church



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Search on for the driver of hit and run Nissan

POLICE are seeking witnesses after a man was struck by a car on a pedestrian crossing outside a supermarket.

The 59-year-old man suffered a broken hip and ribs when he was hit by a white Nissan vehicle on London Road in Rainham, near the Tesco store, on January 21 at 6.25pm.

PC Steve Eriksson believes potential witnesses have not yet come forward.

He said: "I would ask anybody who might have seen the incident to contact me at Medway police station."

Police cash for young people's art centre

AN ARTS charity that helps troubled teenagers explore their creative side has received a £400 donation from police.

Workers at the New Art Centre, Chatham, said they were delighted with the funding, which would be put towards their six-week photography, sculpture and painting programme aimed at youngsters at risk of being excluded from school.

The donation was awarded by the Kent police property fund, a central pool of money made from sales of confiscated goods and distributed to worthy causes.

Pupil's digital prize latest in music technology

SIXTH form student Chris Plows scooped a state-of-the-art portable music studio during a digital demonstration from a leading software company.

The Rochester Grammar school pupil won the M-Box in a quiz set by Digidesign boffins, the company behind the award-winning equipment used by artists such as Massive Attack and Nine Inch Nails.

The Maidstone Road school is the first school worldwide to be sign up as a Digidesign partner, following the lead of a number of universities and colleges nationwide.

Police in crackdown on teen drinking escapades

LITRES of cider, lager, alco-pops and wine were seized from underage drinkers during a two-week crackdown on nuisance crime.

Officers confiscated the alcohol from 16 teenagers and arrested four people throughout the fortnight, in which patrols hit the streets to curb anti-social behaviour.

They visited 32 licensed establishments, issued an £80 fine for disorder and a warning for cannabis possession.

Nuisance motorcyclists were also targeted, with officers using 4x4 off-road vehicles and motorbikes to patrol areas known to be used for illegal racing.

Minister's high praise for regeneration site

Housing chief impressed by developments

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

THE new Housing Minister Caroline Flint was taken to the top of a viewing tower on the Rochester Riverside regeneration site to see where the 2,000 proposed homes will soon stand.

The housing and planning chief, who took up the post last month, was shown the leveled 70 acre plot on Thursday morning, during a day-long visit to key redevelopment locations along the Thames Gateway.

Developments

Preparatory work on the site is now complete, paving the way for phase one of development and the first 600 homes, parks, shops, offices and cafes.

Mrs Flint said: "I came to Medway because I wanted to see for myself just what projects are happening in the Thames Gateway area and I'm really pleased to see on Rochester Riverside some developments that have already happened.

"I'm also here to see the potential of this



Picture: CLER STEGIES

POTENTIAL: Caroline Flint said she was pleased by the developments already made at the Rochester Regeneration site site over the next 12 months.

"It's been cleared and the ground's been made ready so you can really get a sense of the potential in terms of homes, job opportunities and also open spaces, which for the first time in 100 years residents in this area will be able to take advantage of."

Economic growth councillor Jane Chitty said she was stunned by the progress already made on the Rochester Riverside site.

She said: "You get a very strong idea of just how far we have come in a very short time."

"The site looks absolutely stunning and I think you can get an idea of the opportunities that come with it."

"The regeneration is introducing a new dimension to Medway in as much as we'll have new housing and facilities here."

"More importantly it brings the river into the lives of Medway residents, something they have not had the benefit of before now."

Mrs Flint was due to tour other sites in the Thames Gateway area, including Dartford and Gravesend, after leaving Rochester.

Speaking about the overall regeneration picture, she said: "I think it's really impressive. I'm not denying there are huge challenges ahead but I really think the Thames Gateway has a bright future."

"We have to do more to get the message out that there is a lot happening both in terms of housing and transport – the high-speed rail link and new trains come into force from the end of 2009 and are much faster than the ones we currently have."

"You can already see in Medway a real sense of development and I think we've just got to make sure everybody is aware of what's going on and feel they're part of it."

"We succeed when people feel it's not committees that are making the decisions, it's them in the driving seat."

See our report from skies above regeneration area

MEDWAY is the largest regeneration zone in the Thames Gateway area.

The Medway Renaissance programme is behind plans to create a new city of 300,000 people over the next 20 years.

Reporter Nick Ames takes to the skies over Medway to get a bird's-eye view.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Arson attack leaves two ponies dead

TWO young boys are being sought by police after a horrific arson attack claimed the lives of two miniature ponies.

The pedigree animals, that stood a mere 27 inches tall, died after the blaze at the stables in Binney Road, Althallows, on February 22 at 2.20pm.

Det Con Steve Goldsmith said: "We are particularly keen to speak with two boys, believed to be around 12 years old, who were seen in the field at around the time of the arson."

"Though they may have paid no part in the crime, we do think they are key witnesses."

"To allow two young ponies to burn to death is both cruel and malicious, and we are keen to arrest the person or people responsible for this heartless act."

And he added: "The owners of the ponies have been left distraught by the death of their beloved pets and if someone out there has information about this crime I would ask them to contact officers at Medway police station."

Marshes visitor project cashes in on the lottery

THE wildlife-rich North Kent marshes have been boosted with a £1.7 million lottery grant.

RSPB Cliffe Pools project manager Sarah Cooper said the funding has brought their vision of an acclaimed visitor destination at Cliffe Pools a giant step closer.

She said: "Having this flagship green space in the Thames Gateway, Europe's largest regeneration project, will be essential to give people who live and work here a quality, life-enhancing environment."

"We still need to raise more than £4 million to achieve our plans, but such a significant cash injection means a great deal."

Supermarket to tackle underage drinking

LEADING supermarket Asda is set to roll out a proof-of-age scheme across 100 branches nationwide in a bid to curb underage drinking.

The Challenge 25 scheme is one of a number of initiatives unveiled by the food and drink chain, which has stores in Maidstone Road, Chatham, and Mill Way, Sittingbourne.

Asda bosses have also decided to stop selling alcohol in town centre stores between midnight and 6am, prosecute under 18s who try to buy alcohol and remove fruit flavoured shot-sized 'shooters' from sale.

A million pounds will be invested into projects aimed at reducing underage drinking.



'PRACTICAL LITTLE THING': Gary Wareham, Teah Smith, Jayne Berry and Karen Taylor at the awards ceremony

Teah tried to save grandad after fatal fall

A BRAVE little girl calmly tried to help her grandfather when he fell down the stairs at his home.

Teah Smith, seven, tried to make Bran Griffith, 51, comfortable at the house in Gillingham and dialled 999 for help – just as he had taught her.

Unfortunately, he had suffered fatal injuries in the fall, but the youngster has been commended by South East Coast Ambulance Trust for keeping cool in a crisis.

She was presented with a bravery certificate on Thursday by emergency operators Jayne Berry and Karen Taylor, who took her call on December 22.

Jayne said: "Teah was an amazing caller. During the call she was trying to make her grandfather comfortable and did her best in a very difficult situation.

"She was calm and very adult about the whole thing. She gave incredibly detailed directions to the house and answered all our questions."

Sadly, when clinical team leader Gary Wareham arrived on the scene a brief examination showed Mr Griffith was dead.

He said: "The incident was very distress-

■ BY IAN READ

ing, but she managed to open the door and tell us her grandmother's contact details.

"Although this was a tragic incident, Teah deserves recognition and commendation."

Teah's grandmother Nikki is proud of her granddaughter.

She said: "She knew what to do when my husband fell. We talked in the past what to do in an emergency, and being the practical little thing she is she did it all."

"As well as dialling 999, she did everything she could for him. She has a very mature head on her little shoulders and was incredibly brave."

"She is now making it her mission to make sure I'm alright every minute of the day."

Emergency operator Karen said children should be taught to dial 999 in an emergency.

She said: "A child should be taught that 999 is the emergency number and that they will need to ask for an ambulance."

"The most important thing to know is the address where the ambulance is needed."

"If you suffer from a medical condition, such as epilepsy or asthma, try to teach your child some basic information about it."

When King John fought the barons

ROCHESTER Castle was the scene of one of the most important battles in King John's fight against rebel barons in 1215.

The siege of the imposing fortress – which finally fell when the carcasses of pigs were set on fire in a tunnel dug under one its towers and caused an inferno which collapsed its foundations – is illustrated in a detailed model at Rochester Museum.

It shows a moment in the battle when the rebel defenders on the top of the battlements are under direct attack from a massive siege engine.

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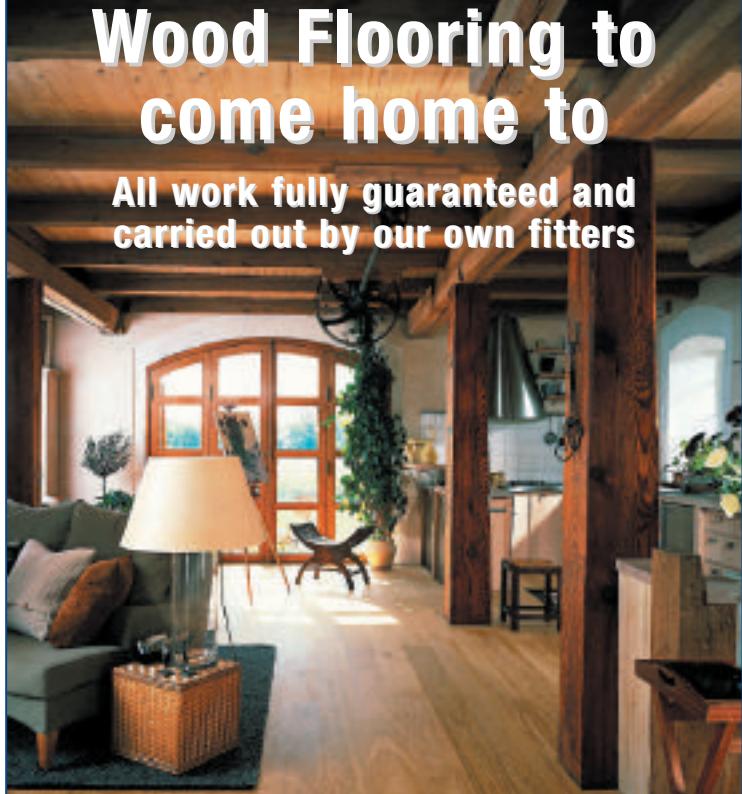
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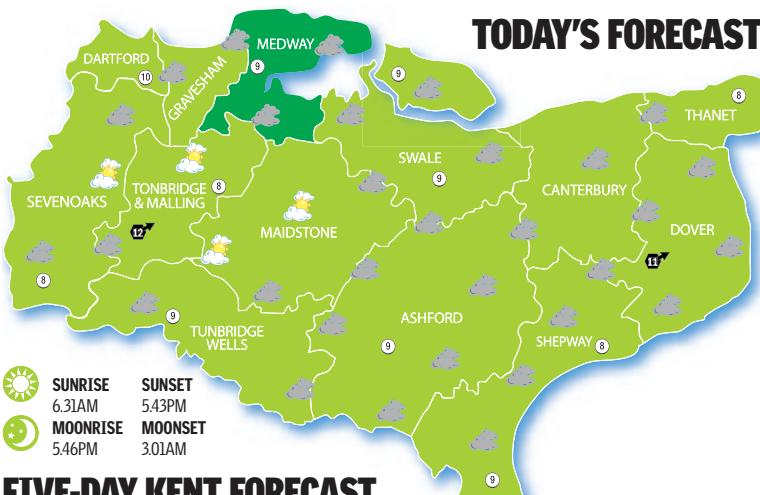
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TODAY'S FORECAST

WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	1:20pm	6.2m
	Sunday	1:57pm	6.3m
Dover	Saturday	11:21am	6.6m
	Sunday	12:00pm	6.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	11:30am	7.8m
	Sunday	12:05pm	8.0m
Ramsgate	Saturday	11:51am	5.1m
	Sunday	12:30pm	5.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	1:10pm	5.8m
	Sunday	1:47pm	5.9m
Whitstable	Saturday	1:18pm	5.3m
	Sunday	1:53pm	5.3m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	7°C	9°C	13°C	11°C	11°C
Canterbury	7°C	8°C	11°C	10°C	11°C
Chatham	7°C	9°C	12°C	11°C	11°C
Dartford	8°C	10°C	12°C	11°C	12°C
Dover	7°C	7°C	10°C	9°C	9°C
Faversham	7°C	9°C	12°C	11°C	11°C
Folkestone	7°C	7°C	10°C	9°C	9°C
Gillingham	7°C	9°C	12°C	11°C	11°C

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	6°C	Madrid	18°C
Athens	13°C	New York	3°C
Barcelona	14°C	Paris	9°C
Beijing	10°C	Rome	17°C
Bombay	32°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	26°C	Tenerife	20°C
Cardiff	6°C	Tokyo	11°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	8°C
Hong Kong	25°C	Warsaw	7°C
Las Palmas	20°C	Wellington	15°C

SMS service for the deaf could save lives

A NEW lifesaving service has been launched in Kent to allow deaf people to contact the emergency services.

People with hearing and speech problems can now text police, fire and ambulance services on their mobile phones, alerting them without having to face problems that could be linked to conventional methods.

Those using the SMS system will have to start their text with the word 'police', 'medic' or 'rescue', depending on which service they need, followed by the rest of their message.

The text will then be channelled to the relevant organisation and dealt with immediately.

Latest juicy gossip about Kelly Brook

MODEL and actress Kelly Brook is looking to branch out and use her orchard to produce her own apple juice.

The Strictly Come Dancing star was born in Rochester but now lives in a country house in the village of Crafty Green, near Maidstone, with Hollywood star Billy Zane.

She has sought advice from a specialist in growing organic crops in order to make use of her orchard in the grounds of her estate.

A friend of the star said: "She has this lovely orchard and has long wanted to do something positive with it rather than just see it sitting there doing nothing."



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SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER DON'T YOU WANT ME 80'S (80'S TRIBUTE BAND)

FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER GREASE TRIBUTE

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER GREASE TRIBUTE

FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER MERSEY BEAT LEGENDS (TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES, GERRY & THE PACEMAKERS, THE SEARCHERS AND MANY MORE)

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER DON'T YOU WANT ME 80'S (80'S TRIBUTE BAND)

THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER SOUL LEGENDS SHOW (TRIBUTE TO BARRY WHITE, STEVIE WONDER, GEORGE BENSON)

FRIDAY 12TH DECEMBER GLAM ROCK SHOW (THIS GREAT BAND WILL HAVE YOU ROCKING ALL NIGHT WITH SONGS SUCH AS WIG WAM BAM, TIGER FEET & HI HO SILVER LINING)

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER DIANA ROSS TRIBUTE

SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER DIANA ROSS TRIBUTE

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER BLONDIE TRIBUTE

FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER BLONDIE TRIBUTE

SATURDAY 20TH DECEMBER ALL SKAS (TRIBUTE TO 80'S TWO TONE REGGAE & SKA WITH MADNESS, UB40 AND MANY MORE)

SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER ALL SKAS (TRIBUTE TO 80'S TWO TONE REGGAE & SKA WITH MADNESS, UB40 AND MANY MORE)

MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER DIRTY DANCING TRIBUTE

TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER DIRTY DANCING TRIBUTE

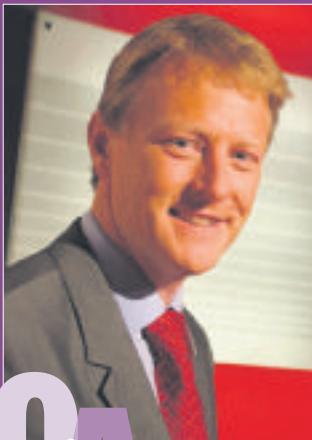
THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 31ST DECEMBER NEW YEARS EVE FAMILY PARTY

yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

ROB SMITH



QA

BBC South East Today presenter Rob Smith took the time to talk to **Simon Robinson** about his high-profile job, what makes working in Kent such a pleasure and what he likes to do in his precious spare time

Q What is your professional background?

A I started out in radio first – I'd got the taste for it at Warwick University – and after leaving, while working for a small company in Essex calibrating hydrometers and viscometers (I really needed some cash...), I found out one of the girls in the lab was best friends with the news editor at Essex FM.

I then made sure I was at a party they were going to and kept pestering him with lager until he agreed to give me a week's work experience. That was probably my best ever investment.

After being a trainee radio reporter at Essex for a year, and six months at The New Leicester Sound, I landed a job with BBC Radio Kent, reading news bulletins and reporting.

After seven good years there, which included presenting the drive-time programme, I moved over to TV.

Q What does your job entail?

A It depends which hat I'm wearing at the time. I am a reporter and presenter for BBC South East Today, the BBC's regional television news programme for Kent.

I also work as a video journalist – which means I film and edit my own pieces. There have been days when I have filmed and edited a story, and then presented the news programme as well!

The great thing about it is that I have almost complete editorial control over my stories.

Q What are your favourite aspects in terms of working in the South East?

A I love working where I live. I've been in Kent for over 12 years and have no desire to leave. I play hockey for Gillingham Anchors and am captaining the 3rd XI this year. I keep my boat on the Medway – yacht rather than motorboat – and love getting out on the river during the week when sometimes you can be the only person out there. It is fantastically relaxing and invigorating when you have a good day. And having been around here for a while, I've gotten to know a lot of people – and people quite often recognise me, which is very nice.

Q How good is the area news-wise when compared to other parts of the country?

A We have everything here within such a compact area – right next to London, right next to the Continent – lots of farmland in the Garden of England, a huge coastline, ancient castles, and rural communities alongside built up areas like Medway. The only thing we're lacking is a Premiership football team. Once the Gills are in the top flight, I don't think you could find a better news patch anywhere.

Q What qualifications/skills are needed to get into your job?

A I have a degree in history and a postgraduate diploma in broadcast journalism – and neither are necessary to get a job as reporter or presenter in TV. The most important thing is, can you tell a story? Can you communicate

with people? It doesn't matter how academically gifted you are, if you can't get the gist of a complex issue down into a comprehensible news item and tell that story in less than two minutes, then you can't do the job.

Q Is your job rewarding?

A Immensely. There are occasions when you know that by highlighting an issue on TV, it can really make a difference to people's lives.

Reports on South East Today led to a government review into hospital cleanliness – that is something that makes a real difference to thousands of people.

Q What's been the highlight in your career?

A Presenting the main programme on South East Today fulfils an ambition in its own right. As a youngster in the 70s I used to watch Nationwide and always wanted to be a newsreader on the telly. I also wanted to be the person to say "This is the Ten O'clock News from the BBC...." – and I've done that as well.

Q What have you got planned for the future?

A This summer I am hoping to sail right around the British Isles and raise money for Leukaemia Research. The plan is to get round in about three weeks and stop off in Newcastle, Aberdeen, Belfast and Plymouth on the way.

New Year, New Campus, New Courses at Canterbury College

Canterbury College's new courses all start this month so call the course contact or Student Information on 01227 811 188 and book your place now. Alternatively visit our website www.cant-col.ac.uk

Canterbury College has developed a wide range of new courses all starting this January. The courses range from Plumbing to Childcare and Sport to Animal Care and from introductory level upwards. So no matter what you're doing now, whether you missed the course you wanted in September, are unhappy with your current course or just fancy a change contact Canterbury College and you can join the course you want now.

Life at Canterbury College isn't just about getting a fantastic education and great practical experience. The college has a

'I really enjoyed my course. I learnt a lot, made some great friends.'
Maximilian Lock, BTEC National Certificate for IT Practitioners



vibrant student community and the Students' Union is nationally recognised for the range of trips, tours and events they organise all at reduced prices for College students. As a student at Canterbury College you'll also benefit from our brand new £50 million city centre campus with sports hall and gym, restaurants, food hall, hair and beauty salons, florist shop, travel agent and theatre. And all of this is just a 2 minute walk from Canterbury City Centre with its mix of top high street shops, bars, clubs and restaurants.

'The people are friendly and it has a lively atmosphere.'
Dee Davis, National Certificate in Floristry

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Hop picking used to be a major Kent industry... now it is a tourist attraction. Find out why.

A training session in Maidstone as part of the FA Skills Coaching Scheme for five to 11 year olds.

Action from the quad bike racing on Margate beach which this year attracted more than 100 riders.

Click on to a comedy tribute to Kent's own funnyman Joe Pasquale by look-a-like Nigel Wright.

Katie Melua, one of the UK's top selling artists, met the under-10s Darenth Rangers football team sponsored by her label.

EDITOR'S CHOICE

You can view all these videos and others from around the county with the click of a mouse at...
yourkenttv.co.uk

Addicted to the run

Sports reporter **David Pritchard** spent Sunday preparing for an assault on the London Marathon next month with a 20-mile run up and down the hills of Thanet. He explains what drives him on and why, for a few hours, he'll be part of sport's elite

"MY name is David Pritchard and I am a jogger." They say admitting you have a problem is the best way to conquering your addiction, so I guess that's the first hurdle cleared.

I am coming clean because since October I have given up several evenings a week, plus most of my weekends, to running. It is all in the name of preparation for one big day out in April when I will join around 45,000 others attempting to complete the London Marathon.

The question is, why do so many otherwise apparently sane people commit themselves to six months of painful, exhausting training, all so they can run for hours on end around the capital?

Are we all mad?

The thought did cross my mind more than once on Sunday as I plodded my way round the Thanet 20-mile course with 500 others, most of whom were using it as a training race for London.

Granted it was a nice day to be outside, and the fact I had run 20 miles before some people had got out of bed did make me feel undeniably smug, but there must be better ways to see Ramsgate?

Nevertheless, as I write with limbs still aching from the exertions, I believe I have stumbled on the reason we put ourselves through all this agony.

Some good-hearted souls may do it to raise money for worthy causes, but I think for the majority – including myself – this is a positive by-product rather than the main motivation.

Instead, my theory is we do it to live out our

sporting fantasies. That may sound a little odd, but stay with me, I'm going somewhere with this.

You see, while most sport-loving people grow up with dreams of scoring a cup final winner or Olympic gold, sadly for all but a chosen few, at some point we have to admit defeat and get back to reality.

However, running the marathon allows us to revive those hopes and transforms us into sporting stars for the day.

We get to run on the same course at the same time as some of the world's best athletes, cheered on by almost a million spectators, with everything beamed live across the world.

It's like having a kick-around at Wembley just after the FA Cup final, playing a round at St Andrews during golf's Open Championship, or driving your old banger around Silverstone during the British Grand Prix.

Sure we are never going to win and the only way we are likely to get on TV is if we are dressed as a deep sea diver or Marilyn Monroe (at this point I would like to make it clear I will be doing neither), but that's not the point.

In exchange for a few months' lonely slog around the streets we get to live the dream, and when you look at it like that we don't seem so mad after all.

At least that's my excuse for not kicking the habit and I'm sticking to it.

• David is attempting to raise £1,500 for Cardiac Risk in the Young by completing the London Marathon. If you would like to sponsor him you can go to www.justgiving.com/davipritchard and donate online.

Picture: GLENN PEARSON



ON TRACK: KOS Media sports reporter David Pritchard is putting in the miles in preparation for the London Marathon in April, all for charity

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Phenomenal' response to Kent Big Day Out

THOUSANDS of free tickets to some of the county's top visitor attractions were nabbed within hours of being made available.

An incredible 11,000 of the 16,000 tickets available as part of the Kent Big Day Out event were downloaded within eight hours of the Visit Kent website going live.

But the good news is there are still tickets available for a range of destinations.

Fran Warrington, head of tourism at Kent County Council, said: "The response to our second Kent Big Day Out has been phenomenal."

"Steam train journeys and boat trips were among the first to be snapped up closely followed by many of our newer attractions such as Dickens World, Go Ape at Bedgebury and Leeds Castle, as well as our iconic destinations such as Dover Castle and Canterbury Cathedral."

For further information about all the attractions taking part in the Kent Big Day Out 2008 visit www.visitkent.co.uk or call in at a visitor information centre.

New competition looks for short comedy films

BUDGING film-makers still have time to enter a new competition looking for the short comedy films.

The 2 Days Laughter competition is being run by Margate-based Beeping Bush Productions and Canterbury firm Close-Up Film.

Organisers are looking for short films or sketches, stand-up or improvised routines of no more than five minutes in length.

Entrants may take time to develop their script, but the actual shoot and edit must take place over just 48 hours.

The shortlisted films will be put before a panel of industry professionals, which includes one of UK's favourite and most prolific actresses, Ramsgate-born Brenda Blethyn.

Details are on www.2dayslater.co.uk.



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Recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Food and drink cans ■ Cardboard ■ Envelopes ■ Plastic bottles ■ Carrier bags ■ Paper/catalogues ■ Foil ■ Empty aerosols 	Collected fortnightly on your normal collection day. Put out in blue boxes or sacks.
Rubbish for landfill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Household waste that can't be recycled or composted. 	Collected weekly on your normal collection day. Put out in black sacks.
Garden waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Grass and hedge clippings ■ Garden prunings and weeds ■ Small branches – less than 7.5cm (3") across ■ Dead plants 	Collected fortnightly on your normal collection day. Put out in brown wheelie bin or brown sacks.

Medway Council collects rubbish for landfill, recycling, and garden waste from homes in Medway. The day and frequency of your collections **are not changing**.

Blue bags are delivered every 13 weeks.
If you need more get them free from Medway Council contact points and offices.

Black sacks are no longer provided and should be purchased from local stores.

More recycling facilities are available at Medway's local recycling points and household waste and recycling centres.

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The door has a total thickness of 2.7mm. This provides even greater strength and visibility through. The 'Silver' colour complements with the highest grade 4 corrosion resistance requirements of BS EN1677:2000+A1:2002+A2:2002+A3:2002+A4:2002+A5:2002+A6:2002+A7:2002+A8:2002+A9:2002+A10:2002+A11:2002+A12:2002+A13:2002+A14:2002+A15:2002+A16:2002+A17:2002+A18:2002+A19:2002+A20:2002+A21:2002+A22:2002+A23:2002+A24:2002+A25:2002+A26:2002+A27:2002+A28:2002+A29:2002+A30:2002+A31:2002+A32:2002+A33:2002+A34:2002+A35:2002+A36:2002+A37:2002+A38:2002+A39:2002+A40:2002+A41:2002+A42:2002+A43:2002+A44:2002+A45:2002+A46:2002+A47:2002+A48:2002+A49:2002+A50:2002+A51:2002+A52:2002+A53:2002+A54:2002+A55:2002+A56:2002+A57:2002+A58:2002+A59:2002+A60:2002+A61:2002+A62:2002+A63:2002+A64:2002+A65:2002+A66:2002+A67:2002+A68:2002+A69:2002+A70:2002+A71:2002+A72:2002+A73:2002+A74:2002+A75:2002+A76:2002+A77:2002+A78:2002+A79:2002+A80:2002+A81:2002+A82:2002+A83:2002+A84:2002+A85:2002+A86:2002+A87:2002+A88:2002+A89:2002+A90:2002+A91:2002+A92:2002+A93:2002+A94:2002+A95:2002+A96:2002+A97:2002+A98:2002+A99:2002+A100:2002+A101:2002+A102:2002+A103:2002+A104:2002+A105:2002+A106:2002+A107:2002+A108:2002+A109:2002+A110:2002+A111:2002+A112:2002+A113:2002+A114:2002+A115:2002+A116:2002+A117:2002+A118:2002+A119:2002+A120:2002+A121:2002+A122:2002+A123:2002+A124:2002+A125:2002+A126:2002+A127:2002+A128:2002+A129:2002+A130:2002+A131:2002+A132:2002+A133:2002+A134:2002+A135:2002+A136:2002+A137:2002+A138:2002+A139:2002+A140:2002+A141:2002+A142:2002+A143:2002+A144:2002+A145:2002+A146:2002+A147:2002+A148:2002+A149:2002+A150:2002+A151:2002+A152:2002+A153:2002+A154:2002+A155:2002+A156:2002+A157:2002+A158:2002+A159:2002+A160:2002+A161:2002+A162:2002+A163:2002+A164:2002+A165:2002+A166:2002+A167:2002+A168:2002+A169:2002+A170:2002+A171:2002+A172:2002+A173:2002+A174:2002+A175:2002+A176:2002+A177:2002+A178:2002+A179:2002+A180:2002+A181:2002+A182:2002+A183:2002+A184:2002+A185:2002+A186:2002+A187:2002+A188:2002+A189:2002+A190:2002+A191:2002+A192:2002+A193:2002+A194:2002+A195:2002+A196:2002+A197:2002+A198:2002+A199:2002+A200:2002+A201:2002+A202:2002+A203:2002+A204:2002+A205:2002+A206:2002+A207:2002+A208:2002+A209:2002+A210:2002+A211:2002+A212:2002+A213:2002+A214:2002+A215:2002+A216:2002+A217:2002+A218:2002+A219:2002+A220:2002+A221:2002+A222:2002+A223:2002+A224:2002+A225:2002+A226:2002+A227:2002+A228:2002+A229:2002+A230:2002+A231:2002+A232:2002+A233:2002+A234:2002+A235:2002+A236:2002+A237:2002+A238:2002+A239:2002+A240:2002+A241:2002+A242:2002+A243:2002+A244:2002+A245:2002+A246:2002+A247:2002+A248:2002+A249:2002+A250:2002+A251:2002+A252:2002+A253:2002+A254:2002+A255:2002+A256:2002+A257:2002+A258:2002+A259:2002+A260:2002+A261:2002+A262:2002+A263:2002+A264:2002+A265:2002+A266:2002+A267:2002+A268:2002+A269:2002+A270:2002+A271:2002+A272:2002+A273:2002+A274:2002+A275:2002+A276:2002+A277:2002+A278:2002+A279:2002+A280:2002+A281:2002+A282:2002+A283:2002+A284:2002+A285:2002+A286:2002+A287:2002+A288:2002+A289:2002+A290:2002+A291:2002+A292:2002+A293:2002+A294:2002+A295:2002+A296:2002+A297:2002+A298:2002+A299:2002+A300:2002+A301:2002+A302:2002+A303:2002+A304:2002+A305:2002+A306:2002+A307:2002+A308:2002+A309:2002+A310:2002+A311:2002+A312:2002+A313:2002+A314:2002+A315:2002+A316:2002+A317:2002+A318:2002+A319:2002+A320:2002+A321:2002+A322:2002+A323:2002+A324:2002+A325:2002+A326:2002+A327:2002+A328:2002+A329:2002+A330:2002+A331:2002+A332:2002+A333:2002+A334:2002+A335:2002+A336:2002+A337:2002+A338:2002+A339:2002+A340:2002+A341:2002+A342:2002+A343:2002+A344:2002+A345:2002+A346:2002+A347:2002+A348:2002+A349:2002+A350:2002+A351:2002+A352:2002+A353:2002+A354:2002+A355:2002+A356:2002+A357:2002+A358:2002+A359:2002+A360:2002+A361:2002+A362:2002+A363:2002+A364:2002+A365:2002+A366:2002+A367:2002+A368:2002+A369:2002+A370:2002+A371:2002+A372:2002+A373:2002+A374:2002+A375:2002+A376:2002+A377:2002+A378:2002+A379:2002+A380:2002+A381:2002+A382:2002+A383:2002+A384:2002+A385:2002+A386:2002+A387:2002+A388:2002+A389:2002+A390:2002+A391:2002+A392:2002+A393:2002+A394:2002+A395:2002+A396:2002+A397:2002+A398:2002+A399:2002+A400:2002+A401:2002+A402:2002+A403:2002+A404:2002+A405:2002+A406:2002+A407:2002+A408:2002+A409:2002+A410:2002+A411:2002+A412:2002+A413:2002+A414:2002+A415:2002+A416:2002+A417:2002+A418:2002+A419:2002+A420:2002+A421:2002+A422:2002+A423:2002+A424:2002+A425:2002+A426:2002+A427:2002+A428:2002+A429:2002+A430:2002+A431:2002+A432:2002+A433:2002+A434:2002+A435:2002+A436:2002+A437:2002+A438:2002+A439:2002+A440:2002+A441:2002+A442:2002+A443:2002+A444:2002+A445:2002+A446:2002+A447:2002+A448:2002+A449:2002+A450:2002+A451:2002+A452:2002+A453:2002+A454:2002+A455:2002+A456:2002+A457:2002+A458:2002+A459:2002+A460:2002+A461:2002+A462:2002+A463:2002+A464:2002+A465:2002+A466:2002+A467:2002+A468:2002+A469:2002+A470:2002+A471:2002+A472:2002+A473:2002+A474:2002+A475:2002+A476:2002+A477:2002+A478:2002+A479:2002+A480:2002+A481:2002+A482:2002+A483:2002+A484:2002+A485:2002+A486:2002+A487:2002+A488:2002+A489:2002+A490:2002+A491:2002+A492:2002+A493:2002+A494:2002+A495:2002+A496:2002+A497:2002+A498:2002+A499:2002+A500:2002+A501:2002+A502:2002+A503:2002+A504:2002+A505:2002+A506:2002+A507:2002+A508:2002+A509:2002+A510:2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Tory health chief backing our campaign to wipe out infection

■ BY JENNA PUDELIK

SHADOW Health Secretary Andrew Lansley has backed KOS Media's campaign to promote hand hygiene in hospitals and health-care centres across Kent.

The message is simple – WASH YOUR HANDS – and help the county's hard working doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals in their battle against superbugs.

The leading Tory came to Kent this week to view proposals for the new PFI hospital planned for Pembury near Tunbridge Wells.

Health bosses want it to be 100 per cent single rooms, which would tackle infection control problems and offer patient dignity.

He also visited Kent and Sussex Hospital in Tunbridge Wells, which saw two killer outbreaks of the superbug Clostridium difficile.

Asked whether he would back KOS Media's campaign, he said: "Yes absolutely, I think the public need to be aware that control of infection is something we can all play our part in."

He said killer bugs could live in the community and not cause problems, but when people are vulnerable and in hospital, care homes or even GP surgeries, germs can spread and patients are more susceptible to infection.

"People have to start thinking about managing infection as part of our social responsibility. We all need to be aware of the need to use alcohol gel in hospitals and in the case of C diff the need to wash your hands with soap and water," Mr Lansley said.

He added: "These airborne diseases can be minimised by people behaving well hygienically and making people increasingly aware of the need to protect others."

Deaths from the superbug C diff rose 72 per cent nationally between 2005 and 2006, figures from the Office for National Statistics revealed on Thursday.

In the South East there was an increase of 51 per cent with 292 people dying in 2005,



NEW PFI: Andrew Lansley, Greg Clark and Sir John Stanley being shown the model of the new hospital by hospital estates director Graham Goddard

compared to 576 the following year.

The ONS found that the majority of deaths across the country were among elderly people.

Meanwhile, MRSA took only 34 more lives in 2006 than the previous year in South East – a pattern also reflected nationally.

The Department of Health said the increase was because of more complete reporting on death certificates and said that infection rates had since dropped.

Infection rates in trusts across Kent have improved since 2006.

NHS South East Coast, the strategic health authority for Kent, Surrey and Sussex, said figures from the Health Protection Agency at the end of last year showed a continuing decline of C diff infections since 2006.

It expects to wipe out cases of hospital acquired MRSA by 2011.



STYLE GURU: Celebrity stylist Gok Wan with New Look competition winners at Bluewater

How to look good dressed

THREE lucky ladies found out how to look great this spring with the help of celebrity stylist Gok Wan.

The star of Channel 4's How To Look Good Naked paid a visit to Bluewater on Saturday, where he transformed the fully-clothed looks of the three competition winners.

Hannah Chapman, 14, from Dartford, Emma Douglas, 36, from Nuneaton and Carole Gunning, 47, from West Kingsdown, were treated to an expert makeover by Gok himself after winning a competition run by New Look.

Shapes

He showed them which colours and shapes suited them, before dressing them each in a fantastic new outfit from New Look's spring/summer collection.

Once hair and make-up stylist Yvette Redmond had added the finishing touches, Hannah, Emma and Carole left feeling like superstars.

Gok Wan will be filming How To Look Good Naked in the Guild Hall at Bluewater on Friday (Mar 7) and Friday, April 4.

FLY TO JERSEY

EXCLUSIVE KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

JERSEY FLYING FROM KENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Airways www.airways.com

Accommodation	Grade	Location	17th May	14th June	12th July	23rd Aug	6th Sep
Villa Isis	3*G/house	St Helier	£279	£299	£309	£309	£329
Norfolk Hotel	2* Hotel	St Helier	£329	£359	£359	£359	£379
Metropole Hotel	3* Hotel	St Helier	N/A	£455 HB	£465 HB	£495	£515
Hampshire Hotel	3* Hotel	St Helier	£369	£455	£465	£495	£515



What's included:

- Return flights from Manston / Kent International Airport. Including taxes and baggage fees.
- Return transfers from Jersey Airport
- 7 nights in a double / twin room with en suite facilities
- Full English breakfast
- Representative Services
- All current taxes and charges

EARLY BOOKING OFFERS

FREE HB Metropole Hotel

14th June and 12th July

Book by 31 March

What's extra:

- HB supplements
- Norfolk Hotel £56 pppw
- Mayfair Hotel £77 pppw
- Hampshire Hotel £154 pppw
- Villa Isis BB only

Single rooms on request. No single room supplement at Mayfair and Hampshire. Subject to availability.

KOS media

For more information call 0844 415 6667

yourkentdating

LOOKING FOR ROMANCE?

NEW PEOPLE JOIN ALL THE TIME... AND IT'S FREE!

**WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT****HONESTY & HUMOUR PLEASE!**

Attractive female, 29, size 8-10, 5'8", long hair/blue eyes, enjoys gym, cinema, dancing, seeking honest, reliable male 27-30, no GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, for love, romance. Box 394013

LOVE IS ALL YOU NEED

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting loving relationship. Box 394013

SEARCHING MR RIGHT

Lively, attractive female, 32, 5'5", looking to meet that someone special to share life, laughter and love. Box 429124

HOPING FOR MORE

32yr old kind, warm walking my dogs, cosy nights in, evenings out. WLTM tall, honest, trustworthy male for friendship. Box 430993

NO BAGGAGE, NO TIES! PACK!

Hi I'm 33, from Canterbury, non-worker as have heart problems, looking to meet someone who's kind, honest, loving and affectionate for romantic times. Box 436785

See online for:
• Success Stories

Read or write your own Success Story. Our members have been keen to write about their stories and how they met - who knows, their stories may help you in your search! We are always glad to hear from you.

• Increase your dating success

Online, say more about yourself and your perfect partner with our extended profile, add extra photos to your profile, even change your ad's colour! It makes for a great dating advert that other people are bound to like!

• Search at your leisure

If you can't find who you're looking for on our page here, you will find so many more members online. Browse, read, hear and see members.

www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp
RAMSGATE REVIVAL

Honest, single outgoing female, 31, 5'11", loves to eat out and go with good friends, duds etc. WLTM similar male, for friendship and more. Box 927816

CANTERBURY TALE

Single mom of 2, 32, would like to meet someone kind, caring and considerate, for love, romance and cinema. Box 406760

LESSONS IN LOVE

Loving, caring, black African female, 33, school teacher. WLTM caring, honest, loving, open, professional man, 35-50 with whom I can share life in something meaningful. Box 422460

TRY NEW THINGS

Mum of 1, 5ft4, blonde, slim, young looking. 34yrs old. I'm caring, honest, with GSOH, like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, food, travel and lots more. Box 431539

R U THE 1?

Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5ft3, brown hairies, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 431539

HAPPY TIMES

Say hello to me, I'm happy moments with a loving, caring guy, around 35-40. Does that sound like you? Box 435380

ROMANCE IS ALIVE

Divorced female, 35, 5'5", 109kg. I enjoy time with family/friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love, romance. Box 819393

SECOND THAT EMOTION

I'm an attractive, dark-haired female, 36, who enjoys cinema, coffee, theatre and socialising, seeking a fun, caring, considerate, romantic guy, for a chat and more. Box 436807

TRUST MATTERS

Independent professional, 35, 5'7", fit, GSOH, enjoy travel, cinema, looking for a like-minded, caring and honest male to share life with. Box 431771

TRAVEL HAPPY

Medway female, 36, 5ft8, blue/green eyes, slim, likes dancing, amateur dramatics, walks, much more, looking for someone who could make me laugh, for possible relationship. Box 434372

**FREE AD placement, call:
0808 156 5339**
**COLLECT your messages:
0906 550 4335**
SOMETIMES YOU NEED A MAN

36 year old female, divorced with no children, brunette, loves travel, music, cinema, nice meals, theatre, cercos, salsa, seeking someone for dates and more. Rainham Box 434374

NICE PERSONALITY

Single, 40+, female, like most things in life, very loving and caring, 5'5", cuddly build, good personality, seeking a gentle, considerate man. Box 431286

SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes. Likes socialising, staying in, going out, seeking a male, 36-40, for friendship first. Box 739894

JOIN ME BABY

Fun-loving, vivacious woman, 40+, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, looking for a confident man with GSOH. N/S for friendship and more. Box 896889

PRETTY WOMAN

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

DON'T PASS ME BY

Single, large built, tall, lady aged 43, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and make a nice chap! Let's chat. Box 897983

COULD IT BE MAGIC?

Single mum of 2, 37, caring and loving, 5ft4, blonde, hair blue, blue eyes, curly country walks, bird-watching, seeking kind, tactile, N/S gent, possibly romantic. Box 895922

OUTGOING

Single, large built, tall, lady aged 43, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and make a nice chap! Let's chat. Box 897983

TAKE A CHANCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

SHOULD I BUY IT?

Happy, fit, youthful 45yr old single mom, N/S, very good sense of humour. Likes all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent male. Box 895922

READY TO START AGAIN

Hi I'm 38, 4'8", dark hair, eyes, divorcee, hard-working, WLTM compatible male, stocky build, for friend times, possibly romantic. Box 435624

THE RIGHT ONE

48yr old, single, dark hair, hazel eyes, likes dancing, music, cinema, evenings out would like to share some good times & fun. Box 901027

BRIGHTON UP MY WORLD

Living female, 12, 4'9", blonde, 50kg, GSOH, very good sense of humour. Likes all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent male for nice times. Box 435451

STRIKE ME

42, 5ft6, medium, down-to-earth, normal hair, single female, 40+, blonde, 5'6", seeking a mate with GSOH and more. Box 436613

MY TIME IS COMING

38yr old bubbly, affectionate woman with a lively personality, 5'5", like reading, pub quizzes, looking for a friendly chap for good times and more. Box 436584

FIND YOUR LOVE

Single, 40+, female, 5'5", blonde, 5'6", seeking a mate with GSOH and more. Box 436584

SHINE ON ME

Single, 40+, female, 5'5", blonde, 5'6", seeking a mate with GSOH and more. Box 436584

SHINE ON ME

Single, 40+, female, 5'5", blonde, 5'6", seeking a mate with GSOH and more. Box 436584

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yourcompetition

WIN tickets to London Golf Show



IT'S one of the top dates on the golfing calendar with enthusiasts flocking to the London Golf Show.

And you could be there too next month thanks to this newspaper.

We have teamed up with organisers of the event at the ExCeL in London to offer ten readers a pair of tickets each.

Ryder Cup hero David Howell was among those at last year's London Golf Show and ExCeL London will once again open its doors to the golfing world, from April 25-27.

Howell was representing Cleveland Golf as one of the manufacturer's tour pros and the company will be returning along with fellow big brands Nike and Wilson.

All three will showcase their latest equipment on the purpose-built indoor driving range, while Cleveland and Wilson will also have their custom-fit trucks at the show, so golfers can enjoy the experience as tour professionals.

What's more, visitors stand to get even better value this year with a stunning offer on advanced tickets pricing them at two for just £15, while under-13s go free when accompanied by an adult.

And everyone coming to the show

can get free entry to A Place in the Sun Live, the world's largest overseas property exhibition, which is at ExCeL at the same time – that's two tickets to two shows for just £15.

With exhibitors showing everything from equipment and fashions to golfing gadgets and the hottest holiday destinations from around the world, the 2008 London Golf Show promises to be a great day out.

We have 10 pairs of tickets to the event to giveaway.

To enter, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your e-mail address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to London Golf Show Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR. You can also text your answer to 81800, followed by a space, the answer, a space and your name and address.

Messages cost 25p plus standard network charges. The service is provided by g8wave London N7.

No purchase necessary. For our full Terms and Conditions please see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. The closing date is March 31.

Question: Where is the London Golf Show being held this April?



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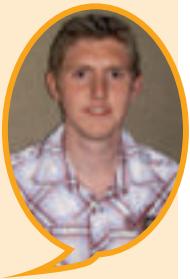


yourletters

TALK TIME

ANDREW STAMP

The Lib Dem councillor talks about his first year in office and the biggest challenges Medway faces.



What are your main responsibilities as a councillor?

I represent Gillingham North, which stretches from the edge of Chatham Dockyard all the way over to Grange Farm on the lower Rainham Road. My main job is to represent the 15,000 residents, take up issues on their behalf and resolve them.

Problems range from simple things like getting rubbish cleared or graffiti removed, through to complex housing issues and problems with crime and anti-social behaviour. I keep residents informed through newsletters to update them on what's happening and tell them about local services they can access.

As an opposition councillor it's also important to make sure council taxpayers' money is spent on the right services and I always highlight areas where I think money is wasted.

How have you found your first year so far?

It's been great. I get a lot of satisfaction from helping people and it's good when your work pays off. But it can be frustrating. The wheels of local government turn very slowly and you have to be patient and persistent if you want to get things done.

Most council employees are good at what they do and work hard, but they are often overstretched.

What are the biggest challenges facing the area?

In North Gillingham the list is endless! It is one of the poorest areas of Medway, which poses a lot of challenges. There's also too much building taking place in the area (new police headquarters, Mid Kent College, Black Lion redevelopment, housing on the former Akzo site and at Sovereign Quarter). This creates traffic and parking problems, which are set to get worse, and many roads and pavements desperately need resurfacing.

Luckily though the neighbourhood police work very hard and they are generally very effective at resolving anti-social behaviour issues in lower Gillingham.

YOUR LETTERS

Chishti still can't make up his mind

I see that Cllr Rehman Chishti is still struggling to decide on his political allegiances as he observes the proceess of the USA

Councillor was in USA forging links

Reading through the letters page in Issue No 25 of Yourmedway (February 27, 2008) led me to wonder if Cllr Teresa Murray has ever heard of the word "diplomacy", or if she is unable to even cast party politics aside.

According to the dictionary, diplomacy is "the art or practice of conducting international relations", and Cllr Rehman Chishti certainly wasn't in America to settle his supposed "struggle to decide on his political allegiances".

Mr Chishti's role was to observe how elections are run in America – not to try and sway public opinion towards, or against, a specific candidate or party; America is, after all, a big country.

Instead he saw how things worked from both sides of the fence, forging important links with American Democrats and Republicans alike.

Trying to make political gain out of such a visit strikes me as being a little bit desperate.

Alan Collins,
from Twydall, by email.

Criticism was in defence of OAPs

I would like to thank Mr Hogben

LETTERS: Please send your letters in to us at Yourmedway, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR

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yourcompetition

WIN tickets to The Vitality Show



ENTRY EXTENDED

THERE'S still time to enter the fabulous competition we ran last week to land one of 30 pairs of tickets and a goody bag for the Vitality Show with Muller at London's Olympia.

Europe's largest health, beauty and well-being show takes place between March 27-30.

And we are grateful to all of our readers who contacted us to point out, due to a glitch in the system, the question posed to win the tickets was omitted from our copy. Everyone who has contacted us has been entered into the prize. But those who want to enter can still do so as the closing date is now March 14.

To be in with a chance of winning, answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address and daytime telephone number to: Vitality Show Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.

Q. In which UK city is the Vitality Show taking place?

No purchase necessary. For full terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or call 01303 817073. If you do not wish to receive any marketing literature please write 'no literature' on your entry. For details on the show, log-on to www.thevitalityshow.co.uk.

of Strood (Yourmedway 20/02/08) for replying to my letter.

First of all, I am not displaying any anti-conservative bias and I don't think the paper is. They print letters from readers.

I am an OAP and on the committee of the Medway

Pensioners Forum. We campaign for all pensioners in Medway and are not affiliated to any political party.

I also have to watch costs and decide my priorities. We in the pensioners forum have an interest in local taxes and other costs.

Labour would do well to count costs

Good to see your article. Conservative bias no display on

I might have criticised the Conservative council, but then they are the ones in power. If Labour or the Lib Dems were in power and they were not being pensioner-friendly I would criticise them too.

I do think Labour with the Lib Dems turning a £150 million surplus into a £350 million deficit is disgusting, but then they did get kicked out.

I don't personally support any of the three major parties because they don't listen to us.

They seem to be in power for themselves, both nationally and locally. If they stopped squandering our money and cut out the waste they wouldn't have to hit the vulnerable pensioners and cut essential services.

If Mr Hogben or any other Medway pensioner would like more details about the Medway Pensioners Forum they can write to me at 5a New Road Avenue, Chatham, ME4 6BG or visit www.medwaypensioners.co.uk

Peter Nassan,
from Chatham, by letter.

Make the most of no smoking day

We all know that more and more people are quitting for good, but smoking is still the number one cause of premature avoidable death in the UK.

There are 12 million smokers in the UK, and it's a habit that will kill half of those who aren't able to give up. Most smokers would like to quit, but it's not easy. And that's where No

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subject to availability. Offer ends 7th March 2008

Smoking Day comes in. No Smoking Day 2008 takes place on March 12, and this year's theme, The Great No Smoking Day Challenge, is all about getting involved and getting fit.

You can get sponsored to support your favourite charity, there's a whole range of activities going on in communities right across the UK, and you can sign up for free text messages and emails to help you through the first weeks.

Across the UK over a million people will rise to the challenge and commit to quit for good. Are you ready to join them?

Dr Rosemary Leonard MBE,
BBC Breakfast's resident doctor, by email

Why wind power leaves me cold

Your mystery contributor who wrote last week's blogger has

Conservation is the key to success

Bill Hyde's got it wrong again. The cheapest and quickest way to meet energy needs is to save energy.

No one has ever suggested depending on wind power alone, but it has the largest potential of any of the available options and at half the price of nuclear power. And wind power does not involve huge decommissioning or radioactive waste storage costs.

Since we have the best wind resources in Europe, the UK will benefit from further offshore wind

farms – including those planned to add to the existing Kentish Flats wind farm operating off Whitstable.

Bill's idea of returning to fast breeder reactors for our electricity is extraordinary. The British Fast Breeder Reactor programme's Dounreay power station was shut in the 1990s having been found too expensive and unreliable to run.

The best electricity production it ever managed was just 18 per cent of its intended capacity. It was a terrible waste of money.

Bill also falsely claims renewables cannot meet demand for energy. In particular, that renewables cannot meet base load or peak demand.

Late last year, a German economics ministry experiment showed that distributed power can indeed produce reliable base load in a secure and reliable manner.

Thirty-six decentralised renewable plants – a mix of biogas, wind, solar (photovoltaics, or PV) and hydropower – were linked by three companies and a university in a nationwide network controlled by a central computer. This demonstrates that new coal or nuclear power stations can be avoided, if a strong commitment to implementing renewable energy is made.

According to Bill's claims, Austria should not be able to meet 78 per cent of its electricity demand from renewables, but it does; Iceland should not be meeting 76 per cent of its total energy demand from renewables, but it does.

What has been done elsewhere in Europe can be done here. It is a matter of political will since the technological obstacles Bill alleges do not exist.

Steve Dawe,
from Kent Green Party, by email

Payment options are not easy for us all

A number of high street retailers have recently announced they will no longer offer their customers the opportunity to pay by cheque.

Whilst the slow death of cheques is probably inevitable, older people remain more likely than other age groups to continue to use cheques as a means of payment.

The truth is that some older consumers in Maidstone may already be struggling with the many changes in the way we manage money, such as the introduction of chip and pin cards, and this represents another challenge.

More than nine in ten older people have told us that more should be done to help vulnerable older people deal with the changes in the way society uses money.

As a charity we provide advice to older people across the country on exactly these issues through our Your Money Matters programme, run in partnership with Barclays.

The projects are aimed at improving the skills, confidence and financial situation of older people by providing basic money management and debt advice.

We would recommend older readers consider asking their bank or building society for a chip and pin, or a chip and signature card.

For those who find it difficult to use a PIN, the chip and signature card is a better option. All retailers should offer the facility to use this type of card.

Rachel Corry,
Your Money Matters programme manager
for Help the Aged, by email

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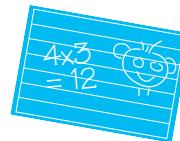
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yourmedwayschools



BREAK TIME

Keeping school truancy levels low

ABSENTEEISM in Medway is below the regional and national average at 6.12 per cent.

That figure jumps to 6.29 per cent when looking at the South East and 6.43 per cent in England as a whole.

The number of youngsters persistently playing truant was also beneath the regional and national average at just 3.5 per cent. However, this figure still means more than 1,250 pupils are regularly missing school.

Medway council spokesman Stephen Hammington said: "Absences in Medway schools are lower than last year and below the national and regional averages, which is good news not only for the authority, but especially for pupils and schools in Medway."

"Family holidays in term time can have more of an effect than parents realise. Two weeks off in each school year for 12 years is equal to missing two full terms of education, which will have a negative impact on children's success at school and seriously affect their future."

"All schools have an allocated education welfare officer to monitor pupils who are causing concern due to absences."

"If all else fails, penalty notices are issued and court action is taken when parents fail to ensure acceptable attendance of their children."

It's the right option

EVERYTHING you need to know about education options across Kent will be contained in a major new supplement published this weekend.

Education in Kent will be available in our sister title – Kent on Sunday – and made accessible online for easy, free, download via our website, www.yourmedway.co.uk.

The guide covers all ages of education from nursery to adult.

Medway fails to reach the national average

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SCHOOLS in Medway recorded their fourth year-on-year improvements in Key Stage three results – but still remain below the national average.

Three quarters of 14-year-olds in Medway attained level five in English, up one per cent on the national figure of 74 per cent.

The same number of pupils reached the same level in maths, one per cent below the average across the country for the SATs.

Only 71 per cent of Medway youngsters hit level five in science, down two per cent on the 73 per cent national result.

Rainham Mark and Rochester Girls Grammar schools proved the top individual performers, achieving average point scores of 42.7 and 42.6 respectively – well up on the England average of 34.9.

Progress between key stage two and three was measured at 100.2, also above the national figure.

Learning and achievement boss Simon Trotter said: "Medway is making progress at Key Stage three."

"Our results are above the national average in English, and following the trend in maths and science."

The Contextual Value Added is a measure of the progress children make, taking into account factors like economic deprivation.

The score for Medway is above the national figure at 100.2. Most of our schools have a satisfactory or better CVA rating.

"Our Key Stage three pupils now have a very successful foundation to build on as they move on to start GCSE and other studies at Key Stage four."



TESTING: Only 71 per cent of Medway youngsters hit level five in science down two per cent below country average

"The progress we've made over the past few years has been a result of a real team effort. It's a winning partnership between pupils, teachers, and parents."

Schools Minister Jim Knight said: "The KS3 results give a good indication of how pupils will achieve at GCSE and I am impatient to see more progress made and see more pupils reach the levels expected for 14 year olds."

"To help this happen in Key Stage 3 maths

from this September there will be new innovative Key Stage 3 mathematics lesson materials available for schools.

"The new curriculum will allow greater flexibility, we have increased the teacher training bursary for maths teachers to £9,000, we have established a 'National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics' and the Secondary National Strategy provides continuing professional development for teachers of maths focused on raising pupils' attainment."

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Acoustic performance awaits you on **the ether**

■ BY GARETH ARNOLD

WITH heartfelt lyrics and intricate guitar work, do-it-yourself singer-songwriter Jon Woode has created quite a stir from his garden shed.

Loosely described as folk, Woode's varied style has invited comparisons with Nick Drake, receiving rave reviews for his latest album *Into The Wildness*.

The Ether – our broadband TV channel www.yourkenttv.co.uk's new showcase for the county's musical talent – this week features two songs performed by the acoustic artist.

He said: "I found it hard trying to pigeon-hole myself into a few genres when I will probably not stick to them. I write in whatever style or genre I have running through me at that particular moment."

"I don't like the idea of being restricted in creativity, I don't set out to write a song in a certain style, I just write it as it comes. I love the old-fashioned sounds, songs and recordings and also love to hear the new. I am not a lover of highly produced music and only wish to record the true music that I create."

Despite using a bespoke Atkin guitar, hand-built by Canterbury luthier Alistair Atkin, Woode makes a point of using simple recording techniques to maintain a raw edge.

He said: "I am not really into the over-produced sounds that flood our air waves. My first album was just a diary of songs, first takes recorded by me on a Tascam Pocket Studio 5 using only the built-in mic. I have moved on since then, but not far. I now have a Tascam eight-track and a nice Rode K2 mic.

"Although the equipment is a lot better than it was, it is still very basic and the studio I've built in my garden has no sound-proofing and



VARIETY: Jon Woode writes music in the style running through him at that moment

is shared with my wife's easel and paintings.

"Hopefully this will all go towards capturing a sound that is a realistic version of what I do and will be an album I'm happy to put out."

Woode performs live at various festivals and acoustic nights around the county, with notable appearances at Lounge On The Farm near Canterbury, and the city's muso-haven Orange Street Music Club. As well as formal

gigs, he also enjoys the odd appearance at open mic nights, including the renowned sessions at The Barge in Gillingham.

His love of folk music stemmed from five years spent in north Cornwall, where he lived and performed prior to moving to Kent.

Woode is currently working on his new album, *Fields Of The Senses*, which is expected in the summer.

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MY LIFE IN THE MAKING: The band play live for **the ether**



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Faye steps into the shoes of Eva

Former pop star brings the extraordinary story of American singer to life on stage

THE magical talent of tragic star Eva Cassidy is the subject of acclaimed musical *Over The Rainbow*.

Starring Faye Tozer, formerly of chart-topping pop group Steps, it explores the extraordinary story of the American singer who became a huge star only after her early death. The play features 27 of Cassidy's best-loved songs, including her signature tune about hope and life in a mystical land.

Born in February 1963, Cassidy was surrounded by music from the very start. Her father Hugh was a big fan of artists like Pete Seeger, Buffy St Marie and Ray Charles, infusing his daughter with a love of music and singing. He taught her to play the guitar and she was soon able to accompany herself and her three siblings, Anette, Margaret and Dan.

As a teenager she sang with local bands in the Washington area and spent a summer playing guitar at a theme park. While pursuing her love of music, she also became an accomplished artist and created paintings, sculptures and jewellery.

In 1986 she met Chris Biondo, who would help her find work as a session singer, becoming both her mentor and her boyfriend.

Her first commercial recording was made with Chuck Brown, who met her through Biondo. Originally he wanted her to record one duet for inclusion on his next album, but the pair ended up

OVER THE RAINBOW

Friday, March 14, and Saturday, March 15
Granville Theatre, Ramsgate

releasing an entire album of duets.

Over the next few years Cassidy became a popular performer in Washington, winning a number of awards for her fantastic interpretations of popular songs.

She eventually released a live album, recorded at the city's Blues Alley, but remained virtually unknown outside her home town.

In July 1996 she noticed an ache in her hips and was diagnosed with

melanoma. Despite having treatment, she died at the family home on November 2 at the age of 33.

Six months later, a compilation of her recordings was released as the CD *Songbird*. It remained in relative obscurity for two years until Terry Wogan played two of her tracks on his BBC Radio 2 show following a recommendation from his producer.

The reaction to Cassidy's versions of *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* and *Fields Of Gold* was immediate, with a camcorder video of her singing live at Blues Alley being shown on the BBC show *Top of the Pops* 2.

Songbird climbed to the top of the UK album charts and since then her posthumously-released recordings have sold some six million copies.

This poignant and moving musical has been a hit all over the UK and Ireland, as well as winning Best Production Of The Year in Holland. Led by Tozer, the talented cast of

West End performers celebrates the life and work of an unforgettable artist.

To book tickets, phone the box office on 01843 591750. For more details, visit the website at www.granvilletheatre.com.

HIT MUSICAL: Faye Tozer stars as Eva Cassidy in *Over The Rainbow*



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with
JANE CONNOLLY
Email jane.connolly@kosmedia.co.uk



ABBA MANIA

Thursday, March 6
Woodville Halls Theatre, Gravesend

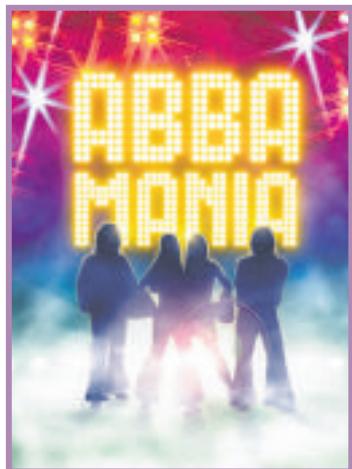


STEP back in time and become a dancing queen when top tribute act Abba Mania arrives in Gravesend.

Abba Mania offer the chance to relive the supergroup's best years and enjoy the fantastic music of the 1970s. The group has been selling out theatres and concert halls around the world for nearly a decade, delighting millions of old fans and winning countless new ones.

For many people in their 40s and 50s, Abba provided the soundtrack for their youth and their classic hits are still dance floor favourites today. The Swedish foursome dominated the charts for nearly 10 years, racking up nine UK number one singles and becoming an international phenomenon. At one point the group became Sweden's highest export earners, even outselling Volvo cars.

The show should be an unforgettable experience, both for seasoned fans who want to relive past experiences and for people who never had the chance to see Abba perform live.



The concert will start at 8pm. Tickets cost £16/£14.50. To book call the box office on 01474 337774.

MOLL FLANDERS

Thursday March 6
to Saturday, March 8
Central Theatre, Chatham

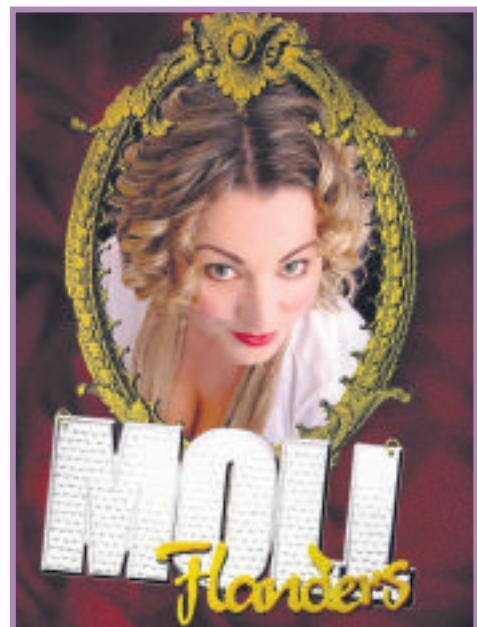


WITNESS a world premiere in Chatham this week as a brand new adaptation of Moll Flanders makes its debut.

Daniel Defoe's classic novel about the debauchery of 17th century England is the subject of a new interpretation by Brute Farce Theatre Company. With plenty of satire and modern mayhem, the company uses a minimal set and lots of imagination to bring the tale of incest, bigamy and crime to life.

Born to a London convict who is transported to America, young Moll embarks on a lifetime of lies, thievery and saucy behaviour as she attempts to secure a wealthy husband and financial security. But as she continually encounters men who are just as loose with the truth as Moll, will she ever find the stable and happy home she craves?

On Thursday there will be a 'talk back' night, when the audience can meet the people behind the production for an informal question and



answer session.

Performances start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £16/£14. Moll Flanders is the first play in the three-play aCT now! series. Book for all

three and each ticket will cost just £9.

To book or find out more call 01634 338338 or log onto www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

released last year, revealed the shocking and difficult experiences he had weathered in his life, starting with a childhood in care. Making his first million during his 20s, bouncing back from bankruptcy and finding his vocation on the airwaves will all feature in this live show.

Gaunt will blend his real-life experiences with comedy, taking a light-hearted look at the ups and downs of his life so far. During the second half, he will receive questions from the audience.

An Audience with Jon Gaunt - Live and Undaunted starts at 7.45pm. Tickets cost £15.50. Call the box office on 01322 220000 or book online at www.orchardtheatre.co.uk.

JON GAUNT

Tuesday, March 18
Orchard Theatre, Dartford



MEET one of the country's most outspoken broadcasters live and undaunted when Jon Gaunt arrives in Kent.

The popular radio presenter and newspaper columnist is the self-proclaimed 'voice of the people', claiming to speak for the silent majority. His often controversial and provocative opinions have made his TalkSport show a lively and hugely entertaining experience for both callers and listeners.

But there is more to 'Gaunty' than just his opinionated persona. His best-selling autobiography,

Author of the Tracy Beaker books, Jacqueline Wilson, discusses her work

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MEDWAY LEISURE

Macabre story makes for a ripper evening

THE macabre mystery of Jack The Ripper will be the subject of an unusual investigation this weekend.

Local comedians Brad Harmer and Robert Wade will be exploring the story of London's most famous criminal. The entertaining evening will be held at The Command House in Dock Road, Chatham, at 8pm on Saturday.

Tickets cost £3. Call 07950 210134 or see www.myspace.com/bradharmer.

Have a cuppa for a good cause at golf club

A COFFEE morning is being held in aid of an Alzheimer's charity at Gillingham Golf Club on Monday.

The ladies section will be holding the event at the club in Woodlands Road, starting at 10.30am. There'll be coffee and biscuits, auctions, stalls and more. The Mayor of Medway is due to attend and everyone is welcome. Admission costs £1.

For more information about the club visit the website at www.gillinghamgolfclub.co.uk.

Organ club is the key to a good evening

ENJOY some fantastic music at a concert staged by Medway Organ Club on Monday.

Darrell Harvey will be playing the Yamaha EL90 and Tyros 2 and all are welcome to go along. The concert will be held at Parkwood Community Centre in Rainham, starting at 7pm.

Tickets cost £3 and light refreshments will be available during the interval. For more information call 01474 812466 or visit the website at www.organfax.co.uk.

Journey of a lifetime blossoms at theatre

EMBARK on the Journey of a Lifetime with Bluebell School of Dance and Performing Arts.

The school will be presenting its all-singing, all-dancing magical tour.

Journey of a Lifetime will be performed at the Brook Theatre in Chatham at 7.30pm on Friday and Saturday, and at 4pm on Sunday. Tickets cost £9, concessions available. Call the box office on 01634 338338 or book online at www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

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Author of the Tracy Beaker books, Jacqueline Wilson, discusses her work



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EDEN PROJECT & HELIGAN 21 APR - 5 DAYS

Now described as the 8th wonder of the world The Eden Project's gigantic domes house over 100,000 plants. Marvel at the Lost Gardens of Heligan rediscovered after 70 years of neglect. Day tickets to both included. Staying at the 3* Cliff Head hotel (HB).



£129pp*

CONSTABLE COUNTRY 25 APR - 3 DAYS

Beautiful Constable Country is located on the Suffolk - Essex Border. Holiday includes a day excursion to many recognisable locations depicted in the artist's major paintings. Entrance to Beth Chatto Gardens. 4* Colchester hotel (HB).



£267pp*

BEAMISH & ALNWICK CASTLE 1 MAY - 5 DAYS

A packed full tour, visiting Alnwick Castle, the film set for Harry Potter, the Beamish open-air museum, the spectacular North Yorkshire Moors, Whitby, beautiful Robin Hood's Bay, Thirsk and Pickering in "Herriot" Country. 3* superior hotel (HB).



£239pp*

COTSWOLDS TOWNS & RIVERS 9 MAY - 4 DAYS

An area of outstanding natural beauty the Cotswolds is famous for its honey-yellow limestone villages - market towns. Also enjoy the countryside from a different perspective by narrow boat, horse drawn river cruise. Thames river cruise - all included. 4* hotel (HB).



WW1 90th Anniversary

£159pp*

NORTHERN FRANCE WW1 & WW2 16 MAY - 4 DAYS

Our 2008 battlefields tour, accompanied by a specialist guide, visits some of the most well known locations - Ypres, the Somme, Passchendaele, Western Front Menin Gate. Visits to La Couپole, Eperlecques and Todt Battery included. 3* hotel (BB).



£399pp*

CO MAYO & CONNEMARA COAST 18 MAY - 7 DAYS

Enjoy the natural beauty of Co Donegal with its windswept peninsulas and golden beaches. Experience lively Galway City, Knock, famous for its pilgrims, the dramatic cliffs of Moher and Connemara's mountains. Main resort stay in the heritage town of Westport (HB).



£299pp*

SPAIN 23 MAY - 10 DAYS

Staying at the popular 3* Papi Hotel (FB), in Malgrat de Mar, on the Catalonian Coast of Southern Spain. Laze away your days on the golden beaches or explore the local towns - villages with their bustling markets. Optional tours to Barcelona & Montserrat.



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yourmedwaygetaways

Cruising tour is ice cool

■ BY LOUISE CAHILL

YOU might not imagine celebrated Italian film director Federico Fellini to be automatically associated with cruising – but the presence of the great man looms large on the giant 85,000-tonne Costa Atlantica superliner.

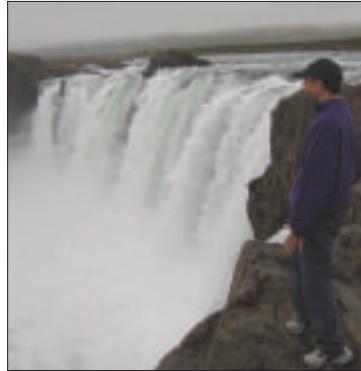
Our cabin was on Deck Eight And A Half, named after one of Fellini's most famous films. The deck directly below, Ginger and Fred, recalled a Fellini TV movie and other deck names inspired by his movies include La Strada, Roma and La Dolce Vita.

Once on board, the link begins to make sense, for the bold interior design of Costa Atlantica blends classical Italy with more contemporary ideas. The lobby space, spanning eight decks, feels a bit like a cathedral at sea.

The other eye-catching feature about Costa, which really moved into mainstream cruising when the founding Italian family sold out to Carnival and Airtours (the UK operator no longer with us) back in 1997, is the prices.

While Costa has dramatically upgraded the quality of its fleet, value for money remains a strong point and some of its cruise-only prices come in under £100 per day. Money saved is often splashed out on luxury spa facilities which are another Costa hallmark.

For our voyage to the Norwegian Fjords, we found our own way to Amsterdam as an



WINTER WONDERLAND: Stunning water features are mixed in with volcanic landscapes and snow

overnight stay in this delightful Dutch city made the ideal curtain-raiser to our voyage.

Ahead of us lay some ports with a rich nautical history – Bergen, Hellesylt, Geiranger, Alesund in Norway; Torshavn on the Faroes, Akureyri and Reykjavik in Iceland, even the remote Scottish ports of Lerwick and Invergordon – before Amsterdam again.

Although Costa claims to promote 'Cruising Italian Style', its passengers are drawn mainly from Western Europe. English is quite rarely heard and often squeezed out by Italians, Spaniards, French and Germans.

Although cabin space on board Costa

Atlantica isn't vast, no fewer than 620 of its 999 cabins have private balconies. Dotted around a dozen decks, you'll also find three restaurants, 12 bars, a three-deck theatre, casino, disco and more. Not to mention three swimming pools (one with a retractable roof), a water-chute and four jacuzzis.

The itinerary was fascinating and included gorgeous Geiranger and a tour to the top of Mount Dalsnibba: the midnight sun was another attraction.

Despite her vast size, Atlantica navigated her way through some tight twists and turns in locations only usually heard of on weather warnings: Bailey, South East Iceland, Fair Isle and Faroes.

The volcanic basalt of the Faroe Islands is thought to be 60 million years old. We docked at Torshavn, supposedly named after Thor, the Norse god of thunder.

The skies were certainly not something we were used to. During summer, it's traditional for the Faroese to climb a 2,500m mountain to experience sunset and sunrise with just an hour in between.

Iceland, first colonised by Irish monks in 870AD, is a joy of glacial activity, volcanoes and memories of Viking sagas. We were then thrilled by Dimmuborgir with its lava formations, followed by the geothermal field of hot springs at Hverir with its belching mud pools.

The price was worth it just for the sky near Surtsey, a volcanic island and the southernmost point of Iceland. Photographing the striped red and yellow display, I lingered on our balcony – it would have been an insult to the sky to sleep.

FACT FILE: ICELAND

Time difference	As UK time
Currency	Krona (approx 130 to £1)
Capital	Reykjavik
Population	313,376
Language	Icelandic
Religion	National Church of Iceland
Climate	Cool temperate

Holiday details

Louise Cahill was a guest of Costa Cruises, which offers a 13-night voyage from Amsterdam to Iceland and Norway's Fjords in June 2008 from £1,669, cruise-only full fare.

Costa's Pronto Price for early bookers can cut prices from around £200 per person.

Costa reservations: 0207 940 4499 and www.costacruises.co.uk

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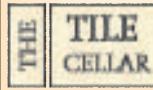
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MEDWAY SHOPPING

**Be the belle of them all
in new pink shades**

A NEW collection of pretty pink and red raspberry clothing has been launched at a popular department store.

House of Fraser in Fremlin Walk has unveiled the new Belle collection by Oasis – a pretty range of occasional wear in raspberry and salmon pinks with matching accessories – which is perfect for spring days.

The range includes pencil skirts and bandeau tops, plus wide leg trousers and camisoles for day time chic.

For more details visit www.fremlin-walk.co.uk.

**Get sexy for bargain
prices with La Senza**

LINGERIE store La Senza is offering customers great deals on selected under-wear and night clothes.

The outlet in Fremlin Walk has fantastic deals on striking styles of sexy knickers, bras and nighties, as well as many other items.

Shoppers can also stock up on sensible pyjamas with the 'practically a princess' range, which is on offer as a buy one get one free deal. For more information see in store or visit www.lasenza.co.uk.

**Time to get a new look
for the festival season**

STORES are already looking to the summer season and stocking everything a festival girl could need.

New Look has launched its Global Festival range with ethnic dresses, sandals and scarves a key theme at its The Mall Chequers store.

Eye-catching pieces in the collection include a moon buckle brown vintage belt for £8, white and blue lace placket tops at £8, and crease front denim shorts from £18. Tank tops are a steal in white and peach from just £4.

**Get the latest music
from this year's Brits**

FOR the best British music of the year pick up a copy of Brits Hits 2008 – launched after the star-studded awards ceremony last week.

The CD, which includes hit songs from the likes of Amy Winehouse, Rihanna and Mika, is now available at the Woolworths store in Week Street.

Home-grown heroes like Take That also feature along with star acts Plain White T's, 50 Cent and Justin Timberlake plucked from across the pond.

**Get your Spiderwick
Chronicles signed**

FANS of the Spiderwick Chronicles will have a rare chance to meet the books' author and illustrator at Bluewater.

Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi will be signing the entire back catalogue of the bestselling children's series to celebrate the imminent release of a movie based on the stories, due later this month.

The pair will be appearing at Waterstone's from 2pm to 3pm on Sunday, March 16. For more details call the store on 01322 624831.



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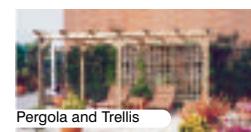
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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY TOM BETTS

LIFE IN COLD BLOOD

BBC1, 9pm, Monday
THE PALACE
ITV1, 9pm, Monday

THERE are some things in life that really can make your jaw hit the floor.

Images of deep space taken from the Hubble Space Telescope and, more amazingly, my pal Pete who last week managed to form a coherent sentence after necking more than ten pints of Stella Artois.

But, until you've seen a snake swallow an antelope whole, tearing its skin apart in the process, these things tend to pale into insignificance.

I refer to David Attenborough's triumphant return (isn't it always?) with the brilliant, Life in Cold Blood.

Last Monday, we encountered the snake in its many forms as the show managed the impossible, to make us feel sympathetic for one of the world's most reviled species.

Educational, visually stunning and surprisingly, for a programme about reptiles, occasionally touching.

At 81, and with more enthusiasm for his subject than a man half his age, Attenborough is still the consummate wildlife presenter. The whispering voice of amazement and authority.

Yet, despite all the accolades, never does he encroach on the true stars of the show, the animals themselves and even the crew get a look-in with a 10-minute slot that shows how they set about capturing such fine footage.

Making the blood run cold, but in an entirely different manner, is ITV1's The Palace.

Just rattling the old thumb along the remote at 9pm is a truly chilling experience. For here is a show that



CLASS: Sir David Attenborough knows his stuff makes you actually glad that the commercial break exists.

This right royal rubbish must be manna from heaven for the BBC as Attenborough and co have been trumping the ITV effort by more than two million viewers on Mondays.

The first episode held a certain curiosity...

The King had died unexpectedly and the next in line to the throne was to grudgingly step forward to do his duty.

For a moment it was all quite exciting, well, until we found out the heir to the throne was little more than a sulking, catalogue model with a fine line of neatly pressed shirts and sticky-out pocket handkerchief thingies.

Yes, it was a bit of a let down, from which this jumped up Dallas-like nonsense never really recovered.

Still, I suppose it could be worse; the next night Hotel Babylon was on.

Answers to all of this week's **timeout** quizzes can be found on our website

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT

AQUARIUS

(Jan 21-Feb 19) YOU'RE ready to fight for your rights. Someone who has repeatedly tried to undermine you is in for a big surprise. A loud confrontation will expose them for the bully they really are. A friend may betray you this week. Perhaps they're uncomfortable with what you're doing.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762

TAURUS

(Apr 21-May 21) IT'S time to spread the word about your accomplishments, even though you're a pretty humble person. If you don't show off your talents, you could be passed over for the perfect job. You've been blessed with incredible talent, but you've also got to sell yourself to the public.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753

LEO

(Jul 24-Aug 23) WORKING independently boosts your self-esteem. You're starting to realise just how resourceful you really are. It may be best to keep your opinions to yourself between now and early May or you could unintentionally offend someone you need to befriend.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531765

SCORPIO

(Oct 24-Nov 22) YOU know what you want and you're going to go for it big time. Developing a creative project is another possibility. You're bound to hit some snags along the way, but the final result will be breathtaking. Don't let people put you off, they don't know how determined you can be.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759

VIRGO

(Aug 24-Sep 23) WORKING with a group will be much more rewarding than going solo. Granted, you're among the most capable members of the team. That doesn't mean you can't benefit from the experience, though. A romance could be on the horizon so follow your instincts.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23-Dec 21) A CHANCE to air family issues comes your way. It feels wonderful to get these feelings off your chest. You've never been the type to keep a polite silence. Be prepared for things to get ugly. Fortunately, you know it's better to be straightforward than maintain a pleasant facade.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760

LIBRA

(Sep 24-Oct 23) IT may be necessary to put in extra hours at work. You hate to burn the candle at both ends, but there's no other way around this situation. A normally understanding loved one won't like it either. You'll have plenty of opportunities to be together once this busy period ends.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531755

CAPRICORN

(Dec 22-Jan 20) YOUR words hold extra gravitas and importance over the coming weeks. Standing up for others and empowering people to make their own decisions is the best use of your time. Your passion will turn the tide in your favour. Sometimes raw emotion can be most effective.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

MARGOT AT THE WEDDING (15)



Margot Zeller is a bright, razor-tongued short story-writer who creates chaos wherever she goes. She makes a surprise journey to the wedding of her free-spirited sister Pauline, but from the moment she meets Pauline's fiancé, Margot starts to plant seeds of doubt about the union.

UNTRACEABLE (18)



Within the FBI there's a division dedicated to investigating and prosecuting criminals on the internet. There, Special Agent Jennifer Marsh has seen it all... until now. A tech-savvy internet predator is displaying his graphic murders on his own website - and the fate of each of his tormented captives is left in the hands of the public: the more hits his site gets, the faster his victims die.

SEMI-PRO (15)



This outrageous comedy is set in 1976 against the backdrop of the maverick ABA - a fast-paced, wild and crazy basketball league that rivalled the NBA. Will Ferrell plays Jackie Moon, a one-hit wonder who used the profits from his chart-topping song to achieve his dream of owning a basketball team. But Moon's franchise is in danger of folding when the ABA announces plans to merge with the NBA. If they want to survive, they must do the seemingly impossible - win.

Uma finds her romantic side

■ BY KATE HODAL

FOR most women, finding and settling down with your one true love can be a soul-searching, life-long activity that you only hope ends in success.

But for Uma Thurman in her latest movie role, finding a husband is a bit like catching a bus: you spend forever waiting for the right one to show up, and then two arrive at once.

The Accidental Husband, Uma's latest foray into the world of rom-com, sees the 6ft beauty playing Dr Emma Lloyd, a pragmatic but uptight radio relationship expert and talk-show host who's engaged to the affable and ever-so-English Michael (Colin Firth) when she discovers that - on paper - she's already betrothed to some guy named Patrick.

While the so-called 'love doctor' might spend her days dispensing advice to the lonely and bewildered women of New York, when it comes to knowing what real love is, she does not have a clue.

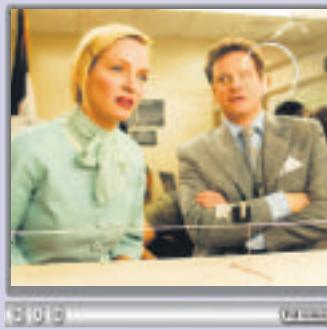
After carelessly advising one caller to ditch her hubby-to-be, Emma finds herself the victim of a spurned and hot-headed fireman (played by Grey's Anatomy star Jeffrey Dean Morgan), who decides the only way to cure his broken heart is to hack into city records and make Emma already married - to him.

"Emma is at the height of her career and she's about to be married to a great guy," explains Uma, looking gorgeous in a black suit and plunging gold top for the London premiere of the film (which she rode to in a London fire engine).

"She thinks she has it all and then this 'accidental husband' comes in and wrecks everything. I just love the vulnerability of someone who thinks she knows everything and then gets taught the lesson of her life. And I could

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completely relate to her: super successful, sure of herself in practically every way, and clueless at the same time."

Uma spent the last 10 years developing this film, which she also produced, after finding that all the roles she was being offered were a bit ditz (think The Truth About Cats and Dogs), a bit serious (remember Dangerous Liaisons?), or a bit too active (try Kill Bill).

"I loved everything about this script, from the title, to the set-up of the plot, to the dialogue. I saw it as the perfect way to express my sense of humour and I thought: I can do this - I'll just cast myself."

Uma's own love life has been in and out of the newspapers after her six-year marriage to her Gattaca co-star Ethan Hawke, with whom she has two children - Maya Ray, 9, and Levon



LOVE DOCTOR: Uma Thurman is back in rom-com role

Roan, 6, ended in 2004. Since then she's been linked to New York hotelier Andre Balazs and is now rumoured to be engaged to Elle Macpherson's former partner, French financier Arpad Busson.

While she may have felt some affinity with the romantic but confused 'love doctor', Uma downplays the importance of advice and finds it more important to make decisions for yourself.

"I don't think anyone takes advice," she says, sporting a mysterious blue-stoned ring on her wedding finger. "Everyone just needs to talk about their issues. They don't actually ever want to take advice, but it's a great launching point for gossip."

THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND
Certificate 12

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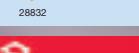
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PROPERTY NEWS

Remortgage figures on the increase

ABOUT half of all mortgage activity last month resulted from home-owners seeking remortgages, it has emerged following recent studies.

The figures will fuel concern of a slowdown in the housing market, particularly among first-time buyers.

Figures from the British Bankers' Association, drawing on data from all major UK banks, show an increase in both new mortgage approvals and remortgaging.

The study is the most extensive of its kind undertaken and widely regarded as a barometer for the housing market.

There was a 17 per cent rise in remortgages, with 79,016 home-owners refinancing their properties.

Remortgage activity now makes up 49 per cent of all activity, the highest proportion since the BBA began collecting data in 1997.

But mortgage approvals were still up on the month before, rising to 44,288.

BBA director of statistics David Dooks said: "Higher gross mortgage lending in January largely reflected very strong remortgaging activity, as borrowers sought out the best deals available."

France and Spain lose out to Austria

AUSTRIA is gaining prominence as a destination for a second home because properties are often cheaper and easier to buy than in other European countries.

The central European state is gaining ground at the expense of more traditional areas such as France and Spain.

Also surging ahead in popularity are the emerging eastern European destinations of Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Slovenia.

Experts say the Austrian property market is experiencing a change as it moves away from providing for holiday-makers and enters the second-home market. Prices in the country have remained stable in recent years and the number of homes changing hands each year is relatively low.

However, new EU regulations have made mortgages more readily available, encouraging buyers from abroad.

Property prices in Austria are now rising at between six and seven per cent a year and the country has been included in the list of 20 best locations to secure positive returns by the BBC's A Place In The Sun show.

Now's the time to snap up a bargain

■ BY NICK AMES

WHILE much of the UK recorded a monthly fall in new home prices in January, conditions could be ideal for bargain hunters.

According to property specialist Smart NewHomes.com, developer incentives and competitive prices mean now is an ideal time for new home buyers to secure a bargain ahead of anticipated price rises in the spring.

The South East and London remain the most expensive areas in which to buy, but property in Scotland is also increasing in value ahead of the rest of the country.

The new homes market typically suffers from a slow start to the year and the 0.5 per cent fall in average prices recorded in January is no cause for alarm, say experts.

However, while average prices over the last quarter have flattened, they are expected to pick up as more buyers return to the market with renewed confidence – fuelled by interest rate cuts expected over the coming months.

David Bexon, of SmartNewHomes.com, said: "Despite a slow start to the year, prices are likely to pick up as buyer confidence returns, fuelled in part by a series of further interest rate cuts which I would expect to see as early as March. However, the current dip in prices across the new homes market makes now an excellent time to buy."

Other experts do not share the optimism. Capital Economics, the consultancy led by one of the City's leading economists, Roger Bootle, has long been predicting that the UK house price boom will come to an end.

This past year, studies indicated that prices would rise by only 3.5 per cent, and as it turns out, they could be on target. But citing a slowing economy, expensive prices, stricter lending and more mortgage defaults, Capital Economics has revised predictions for 2008.

The consultancy's Ed Stansfield said: "We expect house prices to fall 5 per cent next year and a further 8 per cent in 2009, wiping out the gains of the last 18 months.

"The long-overdue housing market correction now appears to be under way."



BUYING: Mixed opinion on house prices sees some experts suggesting now is the time to buy, others are more cautious

JULIE MADDOCKS DISCOVERS HOW SOME SEASIDE TOWNS ARE ENJOYING A RENAISSANCE, SEE THE CLIP @ propertyforkent.co.uk



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DUX COURT ROAD, HIGH HALSTOW

Your Move Premier are proud to present this detached converted barn which is located on the outside of High Halstow Village and Deangate Ridge Golf Course. The property offers views over orchards and views. The accommodation is as follows: Main property, entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen, open plan reception room, study, three bedrooms, shower room and bathroom. Annexe with lounge, kitchenette, bedroom and en-suite shower and detached artist studio in the grounds. The property is part renovated and does require finishing. Please call the Hoo branch on 01634 253322 to arrange an viewing.

£495,000

HOO OFFICE 01634 253322



DYMCHURCH

Your Move Premier are delighted to offer this character style detached house in Dymchurch. Willowdeck offers Four/Five bedrooms, Three reception rooms, conservatory and study with many character style features. Added accommodation comprises sitting room, kitchen/breakfast room, off street parking and a workshop which has a separate entrance to the property itself, we have also been informed by the vendor that there is planning permission to build a double garage, this is a must see property to appreciate all that is on offer and all potential uses.

£499,995

HYTHE OFFICE 01303 264911



COOLING COMMON, CLIFFE

Situated in the sought after Cooling Common in Cliffe, Your Move must stress your earliest internal inspection to fully appreciate all that is on off with this detached bungalow set on approximately one and a quarter acres. The property benefits from four bedrooms, three en-suites, three reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room, heated swimming pool, garage with annexe over and far reaching views across the surrounding countryside. Properties in this location are rarely available so call now to arrange your appointment to view.

£765,000

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BROADSTAIRS

Stone House Mews is located in the grounds of Stone House in North Foreland. Arranged over three floors the property has sea views and communal grounds. There are many original features including sash windows and flint walled entrance hall.

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• Mid Terrace House • Three Bedrooms • Lounge • Kitchen / Diner ref: 527277797

£170,000 HOO © 01634 253322

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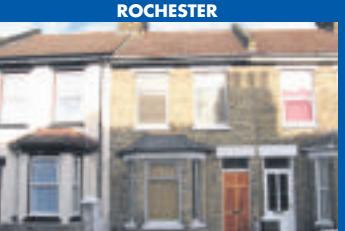
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PANKHURST ROAD

• Three Bedroom Terrace House • Open Plan Fitted Kitchen/Diner • Built In Double Oven/Hob ref: 527240339

£167,995 HOO © 01634 253322

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ROCHESTER

ROCHESTER AVENUE

• Victorian Style Mid Terrace House • Two Double Bedrooms • En Suite Shower • Two Reception Rooms ref: 527258430

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ONSLOW ROAD

• Central Location Three Bedrooms • Two Reception Rooms • Ground Floor Bathroom W/C ref: 527261485

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THE AVENUE
• Link-detached • Located On St Mary's Island • Gas C/H System • Lounge And Dining Area ref: 527275451

£269,995 CHATHAM © 01634 829491



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REDSHANK ROAD

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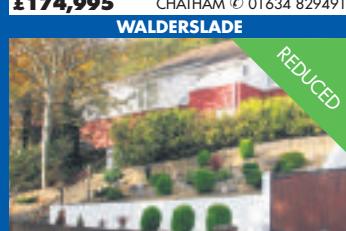
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GILLINGHAM £144,995

Two bedroom terrace home comprising: entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, 1st floor bathroom. Features include a GCHS & DG (where stated). NO CHAIN!!



LOWER HALSTOW £334,995

Four bedroom detached family home in village location. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, downstairs W/C, four bedrooms, first floor bathroom, driveway parking, garage, corner plot rear garden, gas central heating.



RAINHAM £159,950

Two bedroom terraced home located in a Cul de Sac location of Nightingale Close. Property comprises of lounge, kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, bathroom, rear garden, garage en-bloc. No forward chain.



ST MARYS ISLAND £335,000

End of terrace townhouse. Consisting of three bedrooms, two en-suites, open plan kitchen, lounge/diner, utility room, ground floor cloakroom, two balconies, bathroom, DG, GCHS, front and rear gardens, garage.



WOULDHAM £219,995

Townhouse situated in the village location consisting of three bedrooms, bedroom four/dining room, en-suite shower room, kitchen, lounge/diner, balcony, bathroom, DG, GCHS, front and rear gardens, parking, views over country side.



GILLINGHAM £169,995

Three bedroom end of terrace home comprising: entrance hall, lounge/diner, cellar, kitchen, bathroom & 1st floor cloakroom. Features include a GCHS & DG. NO CHAIN!!



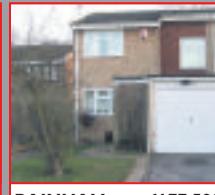
GILLINGHAM £177,000

Three bedroom end of terrace home comprising: entrance porch, lounge, dining room, kitchen & 1st floor bathroom. Features include a GCHS, DG & an allocated parking space.



RAINHAM £185,995

Two bedroom detached bungalow comprising entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, garage, front and rear gardens.



RAINHAM £177,500

Two bedroom end of terraced home in a cul de sac. Location. The property comprises of lounge/diner, kitchen, two double bedrooms, first floor bathroom, integral garage, driveway, rear garden, double glazing, gas central heating.



WOULDHAM £205,000

A character property situated in the village location of Woudham. This property demands internal viewing and consists of three bedrooms, kitchen, lounge, bathroom, DG, GCHS, front and rear gardens, two parking spaces.



ROCHESTER £265,000

A Grade II Listed semi-detached townhouse set over four floors. This property consists of three bedrooms, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, lounge, dining room, study, cloakroom, bathroom, rear courtyard, parking.



GILLINGHAM OIEO £265,000

4 bedroom semi detached home comprising: lounge, dining room, kitchen, conservatory, study, two other rooms, cloakroom, shower room & bathroom. Features include a GCHS, DG (where stated) & an approx 140' rear garden.



WALDERSLADE £179,995

Mid terrace home comprising: lounge, kitchen/diner, 1st floor bathroom & three bedrooms. Features include a GCHS & a garage en bloc.



RAINHAM £136,000

Well presented two bedroom first floor purpose built flat with share of freehold. The property comprises two bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, communal gardens, garage en-bloc, ideal first time buy or investment purchase.



RAINHAM £172,500

Three bedroom mid terrace in the Rainham location of Taswell Road. Property comprises of entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner, three bedrooms, bathroom, close to mainline train station.



ROCHESTER £169,995

A top floor apartment situated on the residential development of the Esplanade. Consisting of two bedrooms, kitchen, lounge/diner, bathroom, DG, GCHS, two balconies, one undercroft parking space, views of River Medway and Rochester Castle.



ROCHESTER £249,995

Townhouse situated on the residential development of the Esplanade. This property consists of three bedrooms, en-suite shower room, kitchen/diner, lounge, balcony, bathroom, dg, gchs, courtyard, integral garage, driveway.



GILLINGHAM OIEO £190,000

Three bedroom terrace home comprising: entrance porch, lounge, kitchen/diner & bathroom. Features include a GCHS, DG (where stated) & a garage (currently being used as a gym/bar).



THE HISTORIC DOCKYARD OIEO £290,000

Four bedroom town home comprising: utility room, study, lounge/diner, kitchen, wc, en-suite bathroom & a bathroom. Features include a GCHS, DG, two balconies, garage & 2 additional parking spaces. NO CHAIN!



RAINHAM £225,995

Three bedroom semi detached family home. Property comprising of entrance hall, lounge, dining room, open plan extended kitchen, cloakroom, three bedrooms, bathroom, garden, garage, gas central heating.



RAINHAM £172,000

Two bedroom semi detached "Dutch Barn" style home. The property comprises of entrance hallway, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, garage, rear garden, gas central heating.



WOULDHAM £179,995

A two bedroom terraced property situated in the village location of Woudham. Consisting of kitchen, lounge/diner, ground floor cloakroom, bathroom, DG, GCHS, front and rear gardens, two allocated parking spaces, NO CHAIN.



ROCHESTER OIEO £399,995

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Maidstone £295,000
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• Downstairs Shower Room • Three Bedrooms

Erith £215,000
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MOTORS NEWS



Jodi's Great Wall charity challenge

SERIOUS illness in her family sparked a charity challenge for Lipscomb sales administrator Jodi Sexton.

Based at the motor group's Chatham, Canterbury site, Jodi is raising funds for Children with Leukaemia by joining the Beijing Olympic Trek Open Challenge in August, trekking the Great Wall route in temperatures of 27-32 C.

Jodi's cousin Andrew was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, which is why she chose the charity. Jodi is funding the trip herself so that all sponsorship goes to the charity. Pledges can be made via Jodi at Lipscomb at 0845 338 9902 or at www.Bmycharity.com/jodischinatrek.



Skoda draws green line

SKODA has launched a version of its all-new Fabia supermini officially capable of averaging around 70mpg.

Kent commuters to London by road will also like the fact that CO2 emissions of just 109g/km of CO2 exempt it from the capital's congestion charge.

The 1.4 TDI Fabia GreenLine - £11,490 and £12,140 in hatch and estate form respectively - achieves this miserly feat through aerodynamic panels fitted beneath the chassis, replacement of the spare tyre with a puncture repair kit and raising the front bumper by 35mm.



Lexus V8 is gunning for its German rivals

LEXUS wants to inject a more potent image into its Lexus IS compact executive saloon series, which tends to be overshadowed by German rivals.

Toyota's luxury arm has unveiled a potent V8 version due here in April and dubbed the IS-F in a clear effort to attack the BMW M3, Mercedes C55 AMG and Audi S4 performance flagships. Apart from a pronounced V8 'burble' the car will stand out with distinctive styling such as double vertically stacked twin exhausts.



POWERFUL: The VXR is certainly a muscular beast, but whether or not the boy racers it will appeal to can afford it is another matter entirely

Crouching Sumo has finesse and power

IS the Corsa VXR a muscular athlete or muscle-bound lout?

A pumped-up bodykit and fat alloys suggest the latter, but a spell behind the wheel argues the former.

But is the question irrelevant when most of the turbocharged pocket rocket's fans are too young to afford to buy, run and insure it?

It might be a small hatchback, but it costs £15,625; enthusiastic use of its 189bhp and 0-60mph in less than seven seconds decimates the official 35.8mpg average; and the insurance is group 16.

Those who actually can afford to run such a car are likely to prefer something more grown-up or wearing a classier or trendier badge.

On the other hand, is it that the car's really a halo model? drawing attention to the overall Corsa line-up and especially, the cheaper and more civilized yet still racy Corsa SRi with VXR accoutrements?

Probably, but the VXR still deserves judgement on its own merits. It certainly looks the part with showy alloys and body kit, although the dumpy rear looks like a crouching sumo

ROAD TEST

VAUXHALL CORSA VXR

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

wrestler with its wheel arch vents and diffuser. The interior is smart thanks to alloy highlights and fabulous Recaro front seats – these might not give much, but the contoured comfort is startling.

Climb past the Recaros – their wide shoulders make this harder than standard Corsa seats – and you also have enough rear space to imagine some young dads persuading 'er indoors that it really is a "good motor for the family, luv".

Couple this with decent ride quality and cruising refinement and the VXR is a hot hatchback that you really can live with on a long journey, yet it also 'walks the talk' to go with its looks.

The car has tenacious grip without unnecessarily hard suspension, plus good steering feedback and a tidy flat cornering stance.

The impressive engine power also feeds efficiently to the road without the steering wheel fight of the bigger Astra VXR, and links well with a well-spaced and slick six-speed gearbox.

Pumped up it might be, but the Corsa VXR is no lout.



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06 56	VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE 1.8 DESIGN SILVER	£9,695	£9,495	£200					
07 07	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI 5DR CLUB (A/C)	£8,795	£8,495	£300					
07 57	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SX 3DR BLACK (A/C)	£10,295	£9,995	£300					
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

PRACTICAL MOTORS

TIME was that practicality was a dirty word with car buyers and choosing an estate was an admission you needed to carry tools on weekdays and kids at the weekend. But 'lifestyle estates' suggesting a rural existence, as well as the rise of MPVs have made space and flexibility permissible and even big business. So, we have chosen three affordable yet useful secondhand load luggers to illustrate different approaches: an estate based on a best seller, a thoroughly modern MPV and a capacious van-based all-rounder.

FORD FOCUS ESTATE



FORD'S estate spin-off from the original futuristic Focus design was not the most convincing looker, but proved to be an effective load lugger with all the driving virtues of its sister. Secondhand bargain hunters will find plenty of engine and trim choice at affordable prices – many companies bought these to put reps and their samples on the road – but check for high mileage and abuse. If you can afford them, Focus Mk II estates make more elegant used buys.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

VAUXHALL MERIVA



IT has not enjoyed the new car sales success of its Zafira big brother, but used car buyers know the value of the Corsa-based Vauxhall Meriva. It's compact yet still has a higher driving position; it is also tall and spacious yet handles with car-like sure-footedness. Mix in a good range of engines and trim – including a scorching VXR version – and you start to see why this flexible five-door MPV is sought after on the used market.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROËN BERLINGO MULTISPACE



POSTMAN Pat jibes come thick and fast, but you can have the last laugh with a miserly yet capable diesel version of this van-based workhorse. Along with its Peugeot sister – the Partner Combi – it's pleasant to drive, cruises well and has two rear sliding side doors for easy access. The legendary power and refinement of the diesel engine is another attraction to tempt families, dog lovers or those who need something simple and roomy to suit a sporty lifestyle.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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CORSA																							
2005	05	Corsa Breeze	1.0	3	Silver lightening	34,825	5,495	2005	05	Vectra Sri	2.2	5	Star silver	30,550	8,250								
2006	56	Corsa Sxi +	1.4	3	Ultra blue	5,500	6,995	2006	06	Vectra Exclusiv	1.8	5	Black sapphire	14,900	8,995								
2006	56	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Star silver	6,200	6,795	2007	07	Vectra Exclusiv	1.8	5	Ultra blue	7,950	10,995								
2007	56	Corsa Sxi +	1.4	3	Silver lightening	3,250	7,395	2007	07	Vectra CDTi Exclusiv Est	19D	5	Metro blue	12,050	12,995								
2007	07	New Corsa Club A/c	1.2	5	Pannacotta	10,600	8,495	2007	07	Vectra Sri CDTi (150ps)	19D	5	Black sapphire	8,750	16,995								
2007	07	New Corsa Design	1.2	5	Air blue	12,770	8,995	2007	07	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Star silver	12,650	10,495								
2007	07	New Corsa Design	1.2	5	Air blue	12,770	8,995	2007	07	Vectra Exclusiv + pack	1.8	5	Black sapphire	8,200	9,495								
SIGNUM																							
2003	03*	Signum Elegance	2.2	5	Oyster	50,375	6,650	2007	07	New Vectra CDTi Sri Nav	19D	5	Star silver	8,900	12,995								
2003	53	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	36,500	6,350	2007	07	Vectra Life	1.8	5	Black sapphire	10,250	9,995								
2004	04	Signum Elite Auto	2.2	5	Black sapphire	22,000	8,195	OTHER MAKES															
2004	04	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Silver	34,850	7,995	2004	54*	Renault Clio Dynamique	1.2	3	Silver	8,150	5,150								
MERIVA																							
2004	04	Meriva Design MTA	1.8	5	Ultra blue	35,000	6,495	2002	20*	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Yellow	52,000	3,995								
2007	57	Meriva Energy MTA	1.6	5	Ultra blue	1,950	10,995	2005	05	Corsa Breeze	1.0	3	Star silver	28,000	4,995								
VXR8																							
2007	57	VXR8 Sat Nav	6.0	4	Phantom Black	6,000	32,995	2005	05	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Black sapphire	44,000	5,650								
ASTRA																							
2000	W*	Astra Club Auto	1.6	5	Star silver	36,100	2,995	2004	04	Meriva Enjoy	1.6	5	Silver lightening	23,000	5,995								
2002	52*	Astra Convertible	1.6	2	Flame red	58,100	6,250	2005	05	Meriva Breeze E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	25,000	6,695								
2004	54	New Astra Club	1.6	5	Black sapphire	29,450	7,495	2005	05	Meriva Design CDTi	1.7D	5	Ultra blue	31,000	7,295								
2005	54	New Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Flame red	34,000	7,995	2003	03	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	44,000	4,250								
2004	54	New Astra Club E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	40,500	6,995	2004	54	New Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Star silver	17,000	7,495								
2005	05	New Astra Estate Design	1.8	5	Breeze blue	33,700	7,995	2005	05	New Astra Sri	2.0	3	Black sapphire	15,000	10,995								
2005	55	New Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Star silver	15,550	7,995	2005	05	New Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Ultra blue	42,000	8,495								
2007	07	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	18,900	9,995	2005	54	Astra Coupe	1.8	2	Star silver	34,000	6,995								
2007	57	New Astra Sports hatch Sxi	1.7D	3	Power red	8,150	11,995	2007	07	New Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	17,000	9,995								
2007	57	Astra Club Estate CDTi	1.3D	5	Panacotta	7,850	12,995	2005	05	Zafira Breeze	1.6	5	Black sapphire	37,000	7,350								
ZAFIRA																							
2001	01*	Zafira Comfort	1.6	5	Star silver	54,400	4,495	2005	55	New Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Flame red	29,000	8,995								
2003	03*	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Mirage	65,650	4,995	2007	07	Tigra Exclusiv Red	1.4	5	Metro blue	TBA	11,995								
2005	54	Zafira Life Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	26,200	6,995	2007	07	Vectra CDTi Exclusiv Auto	1.9D	5	Panacotta	8,000	11,495								
2006	55	New Zafira Design	1.8	5	Star silver	26,300	10,495	2001	51*	Ford Focus Zetec	1.8	5	Black	48,000	3,995								

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147, JTD 02, g157fe, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, £1495, Thame Group Turbine Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

156, 1.8 T SPARK, 2000 (v), 67759 miles, red, 4 door saloon, pas, abs, electric mirrors, metallic burgundy, £only £2795, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, SE 5dr, gj02xu, climate control, remote alarm, remote central locking, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, abs, twin air bags, radio cassette, uk specification, uk supplied, 16" alloys, aluminium silver, 66440 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

A3, SE, ak02fb, central locking, immobiliser, air conditioning, electric windows, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, colour coded body, head restraints, electric mirrors, alcantara leather, stereo, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, 17" alloys, blue, S2000 miles, £6599, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, bluish silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £4950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 017954 26700 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 120i Se, black, 2004, 32305 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 3 previous owners, black, £10995, Drake and Fletcher Hyundai, Ashford, 0845 389 1214 (TRADE)

3 SERIES, 316i SE 1895cc 4 door, 2000, abr brakes air conditioning only wheels driver's airbag multiple airbags power steering immobiliser met silver, 107000 miles, £3995, Northdown Road Motor Company, Margate, 01843 290990 (TRADE)

318, 2003, magentis blue, 25478 miles, £1095, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3436 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C2, 1.1i Furio 3dr, 2007, 1.1i furio 3dr hatch, blue, 10000 miles, £7295, Wilmslow Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4i SX 3dr, 2007, 1.4i sx 3dr hatch, wicked red, 6354 miles, £7495, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

DAEWOO NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

LACETTI, SX 1.6, 25637, finished in mint green with black interior manual, black, 0 miles, £4995, Gaffney's Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

LANDS, 1.4 S Hatchback 3d 1349cc, w583vtn, new mot very clean cheap tax & insurance, green, 33935 miles, £1495.00, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

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BRAVO, T-Jet, gj07vx, alarm, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, central locking, drivers airbag, electric windows, power steering, abs, head restraints, electric mirrors, alcantara leather, stereo, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, 17" alloys, blue, S2000 miles, £6599, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16v, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

CROMA, JTD Dynamic, gjk5ru, abstain-lock brakes, air bag knee, air conditioning, body coloured bumpers, central locking, cloth interior, driver's air bag, immobiliser, passenger air bag, power-assisted steering, blue, 27000 miles, £7295, Thame Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2, Sporting Speedgear, 2001, red, 31589 miles, £3495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 1.2, 16v, 2003, blue, 36749 miles, £4295, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

FORD

FOCUS, 1.8 Zetec, 1999, insurance group 6 2 owners service history immobiliser drivers airbag power steering moonroof silver, 64000 miles, £1289, A1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec 5dr, front fog lamps, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headlights, electric mirrors, front/rear windscreen, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, twin air bags, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, 41200 miles, £3995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 0208 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FOCUS, Zetec 5dr, front fog lamps, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headlights, electric mirrors, front/rear windscreen, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, twin air bags, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, 41200 miles, £3995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 0208 8855 4000 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2 i-Ctdi Sport, 10003851074, immobiliser, remote central locking, colour coded interior, half leather, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, adjustable steering column, cruise control, front/rear seatbelts, wheel, power steering, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric windows, dual climate zones, multi-disc cd player, steering wheel audio controls, alloy wheels, metallic blue, 66000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, Le 16v Crdi Auto, hk54 eh, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, full leather, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, air bags, power steering, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, silver, 62000 miles, £5000, A1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

S-TYPE, V6 Auto, 1999, insurance group 15 abs alloy wheels body colour coded bumper, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, air conditioning, cd player, radio, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, front/rear airbags trip control trip computer 2 owners service history, meteorite silver, 62000 miles, £5000, A1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6 3dr, 08/03/2002, cd player abr alarm power steering electric windows, cd player, radio, air conditioning, cd player, cruise control, front/rear air bags, curtain airbags, abs, trip computer, centre armrest, abs, child locks, £9995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 0208 8855 4000 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6, 16i 4dr, mini cooper 1.6 3dr honda honda madison drake & fletcher yellow, 2002, 70068 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 2 previous owners, yellow, £7695, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

CARISMA, Elegance di-0 Lx 5dr, full leather, central locking, abs, air bags, air conditioning, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, radio, silver, 8500 miles, £9995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 0208 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI LX 5dr Auto, c54fpr, abs, air bags, twin air bags, air conditioning, front/rear windscreen, electric windows, cd, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, silver, 62000 miles, £9990, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CARISMA, 1.7 16v 5dr, 2005, abs, air bags, front/rear air bags, air conditioning, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, air conditioning, electric windows, cd player, radio, silver, 62000 miles, £9990, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6 3dr, 121065127, abs, air bags, front/rear air bags, air conditioning, front/rear windscreen, cd player, rear wash/wipe, red, 23735 miles, £5299, AutoPlan Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

COOPER, 1.6 3dr, 121065127, abs, air bags, front/rear air bags, air conditioning, front/rear windscreen, cd player, rear wash/wipe, red, 23735 miles, £5299, AutoPlan Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TDI County Station Wagon, 10846054, alarm, cd player, upshift, tow bar, colour coded body, radio cassette, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, 4x4, road tax is £180 per year on this vehicle, epsom metallic green, 68000 miles, £12995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TDI County Station Wagon, 10846054, alarm, power steering, rear wash/wipe, side steps, tow pack, sunroof, cloth upholstery, 13" alloys, abs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, steering wheel audio controls, stereo, green, 66300 miles, £3790, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 110 TDI County Station Wagon, 10846054, alarm, power steering, rear wash/wipe, side steps, tow pack, sunroof, cloth upholstery, 13" alloys, abs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, steering wheel audio controls, stereo, green, 66300 miles, £3790, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

TS D 2.0 110PS 5dr MPV, jan 2006, g157fe, two previous keepers, power steering remote central locking, air conditioning, colour coded body, 6 speed gearbox, cd player, radio, stereo, height adjustable seat, adj. steering column, 6 speed gearbox, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, abs, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, remote alarm, multi-function steering wheel, child locks, multiple airbags, aux lighting, rain-sensing wipers, panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, metallic green, 15,000 miles, £12,995, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

TS D 143 2006, grey metallic with charcoal, 31000 miles, £10495, UM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

TS D 2.0 GXi 1998, insurance group 10 drivers airbag power steering central locking front electric windows, classic red, 71000 miles, £1789, A1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

TS 2.0 110PS 5dr MPV, jan 2006, g157fe, two previous keepers, power steering remote central locking, air conditioning, colour coded body, 6 speed gearbox, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, abs, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, remote alarm, multi-function steering wheel, child locks, multiple airbags, aux lighting, rain-sensing wipers, panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, metallic green, 68000 miles, £3990, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

TS D 143 2006, grey metallic with charcoal, 31000 miles, £10495, UM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

TS 2.0 110PS 5dr MPV, jan 2006, g157fe, two previous keepers, power steering remote central locking, air conditioning, colour coded body, 6 speed gearbox, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, abs, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, stereo, remote alarm, multi-function steering wheel, child locks, multiple airbags, aux lighting, rain-sensing wipers, panoramic sunroof, alloy wheels, metallic green, 68000 miles, £3990, Kent TD Centre, Maidstone, 01622 750022 (TRADE)

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- MANAGEMENT, SENIOR POSITIONS
- MARKETING, ADVERTISING

- MOTOR TRADE, DRIVER
- NOT FOR PROFIT, CHARITIES
- NURSING, MEDICINE, CARE WORK
- OTHER
- PRINT, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION
- PR, MEDIA, JOURNALISM
- PUBLIC SECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES
- RETAIL, WHOLESALE, SALES
- SCIENTIFIC AND PHARMACEUTICAL, RESEARCH
- TRANSPORT, LOGISTICS, AVIATION



Require a

Full Time Sales Person

Experience useful but not essential, candidates must have good communication skills and deliver the highest level of customer care.

If you possess enough determination, enjoy meeting people and like to work as part of a team.

Please send your CV ASAP for the attention of
Rob Vennink at Morris and Turner
4 Third Avenue, Chatham, Kent ME5 0AD
E-Mail rob@morrisandturner.co.uk or
Telephone 01634 813813 - Fax: 01634 813861



Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1000+ pupils with 300 in the Sixth Form (including 40 girls)

ARE YOU A WELL QUALIFIED SCIENCE GRADUATE?
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A CHANGE OF CAREER?
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TEACHING?

We have a vacancy on the Graduate Teacher Programme (in conjunction with Canterbury Christ Church University) beginning in September 2008.

We can offer you an opportunity to work with bright, talented youngsters in a school where you will receive full support as you achieve Qualified Teacher Status.

For more information and an informal discussion please contact Mr Eliot Hodges (Assistant Headteacher) at the school.

Closing date for applications - Monday, 10th March 2008

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07966 968128 or
01634 304278**



Rainham School for Girls

(A Specialist Technology College & Training School)
Derwent Way, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0BX. Tel: 01634 362 746
(NOR 1500) Head Teacher: Mrs J Dunn

Mathematics Teachers required for September 2008

Applications welcome from experienced teachers and NQTs

Rainham School for Girls is a popular and successful non-selective 11-19 school offering excellent opportunities for enthusiastic and ambitious applicants to contribute to its continuing development. The school has Investors in People status.

Relocation expenses (up to £1,000) are available to all applicants.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from Mrs D Francis, Personnel Officer at the School.

Tel: 01634 362746, Fax: 01634 388334, email: dfrancis@rsg.org.uk

Closing date: 10th March 2008



**KENT
WILDLIFE
TRUST**

Charity Reg. No. 239992

Kent Wildlife Trust is the county's leading nature conservation organisation with a membership of 28,500 and an increasingly important voice in the future of Kent's natural environment.

Three new posts have been created to meet the challenge of rebuilding Kent's biodiversity. They will play critical roles within the Trust and provide real and exciting opportunities for professional and personal development, as well as making a genuine and lasting difference for wildlife.

Conservation Officer (Policy & Planning)

Salary range £21,806 - £25,872

You will take responsibility for the Trust's work on Local Development Frameworks, major development proposals and other strategically important development issues, where the opportunities are already in place to make real gains for wildlife.

Closing date for applications - 20th March 2008

Living Landscapes Team Leader

Salary range £21,806 - £28,581

You will be responsible for taking forward the Trust's work on promoting and delivering the restoration of biodiversity at the landscape-scale. The post will have line management responsibilities and will involve co-ordination with other Wildlife Trusts in the South East region.

Closing date for applications - 17th March 2008

Living Landscapes Project Officer

Salary range £19,096 - £23,161

You will be driving forward the delivery of landscape scale biodiversity restoration projects within identified project areas, bringing together stakeholders, co-ordinating and facilitating the work of project partners, and working to make real change happen on the ground.

Closing date for applications - 17th March 2008

For full details and application form please contact:
Dot Hughes on 01622 662012
email: dot.hughes@kentwildlife.org.uk
visit: www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk

KWT has a positive approach to equality and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.



Church of England, Voluntary Aided, Humanities College
11-18, Mixed, Comprehensive School

Meadow Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7LS
Tel: 01474 532082, Fax: 01474 532844
Website: www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

HEADTEACHER: Mrs A Hill MA

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS with responsibility for KS4

(MPS plus TLR depending on qualifications/experience)

TEACHER OF SCIENCE

(MPS suitable for NQT)

AST IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

(AST scale depending on qualifications/experience)

Saint George's Church of England School is a successful, innovative and over-subscribed comprehensive school. We are looking for enthusiastic mathematics and science teachers with energy, vision and creativity to join our dedicated and supportive team at this exciting time. Salary and relocation package is negotiable for the right applicant.

Applicants should contact the school to request further details and an application form (Email dharival@saingtgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk) or visit our website www.saintgeorgescofe.kent.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: 19 March 2008. Candidates will be invited for interview week commencing 31 March 2008.



TRAIN AS A HOME INSPECTOR

Up to 2 million properties being sold every year now need Home Information Packs which must include an Energy Assessment carried out by thousands of newly trained Home Inspectors or Energy Assessors. Many of these new professionals will be needed later this year for the rental sector when Government requires around 1.8 million properties being let to also have Energy Assessments. Thousands more new Home Inspectors will also be needed if Government confirm Packs must include a currently optional Home Condition Report.

This creates new career opportunities and people are required now to train as Home Inspectors in their spare time. No previous surveying experience is required. Current fee earning expectations are £800 to £850 for Energy Assessments and £200 to £300 for Home Condition Reports with up to 15 Assessments or 10 Reports estimated to be able to be carried out in a week, subject to size of properties and the number supplied.

Applicants should apply now for a limited number of training places at the Government's RIBBLE approved Home Inspector Training centres near Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester. The Courses mainly consists of 7 separately bookable one-week modules, taken over up to 18 months if this long is needed and most people can therefore train around their current commitments.

On qualifying you are awarded the Government's RIBBLE Home Inspector Diploma and are able to carry out Assessments and Reports stated by yourself or for other Pack Providers etc. depending on the market share gained, for our own in-House Pack Provider in return for a course subsidy. Once qualified, further short courses and qualification opportunities, now being researched, may also be available creating other possible income streams.



Call up to 7pm for an interview: London

0208 335 1700

Colyer Road
Northfleet, Gravesend
Kent DA11 8BG
Head: John Hassett MA

GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAMME

In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following Trainee placements on the Graduate Teacher Programme. Required for September 2008

• Science • Mathematics • Music

This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees.

We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details.

An application form can be obtained by telephone 01474 533802 Ext 201 fax 01474 536122 or by email taylor@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk.

Closing Date Monday 17 March.



Work Experience Co-ordinator

Salary - £14,500 - £15,500pa

Medway Education Business Partnership is a charity which arranges work experience and other events and projects for Medway students, involving local businesses.

We are seeking to recruit a Work Experience Co-ordinator to work in our very busy team, supporting schools in their work experience, enterprise and work related learning activities.

A detailed job description is available on request.

You must be confident, extremely organised in your work and capable of working to demanding deadlines. Attention to detail whilst managing conflicting priorities will be essential; a telesales background would be useful.

Own transport is essential.

Please apply, enclosing your CV to:
Mrs Dawn Jansen, Office Manager,
MEBP, c/o BAE Systems, Rochester, Kent ME1 2XX
dawn@mebp.co.uk www.mebp.org 01634 204995

Closing date for applications Wednesday 19th March 2008





BHD is an award winning Architects practice located just outside Sevenoaks.

We are currently recruiting for a

Secretary

to provide full reception support together with secretarial duties to our expanding Architectural team.

We are a busy practice and so are looking for a candidate who is able to multi-task and happy work unsupervised as part of a growing team.

This is an excellent role for someone with relevant secretarial/reception experience who wishes to join an organisation where you will enjoy a variety of administrative duties which you can take ownership of.

Salary: £18,000-£20,000 pa with excellent benefits.

Please email your CV to the Practice Manager – nicola.somers@bhdarchitects.co.uk

A full job description is available on request. Closing date is the 6 March 2008.

We are an equal opportunities employer



Cecil Road Primary and Nursery School

Cecil Road, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7BT
Tel: 01474 534544 headteacher@cecil-road.kent.sch.uk

Investors in People Healthy Schools
Headteacher: Mr Andrew Sparks

Deputy Head L4-10

(Salary negotiable)

A wonderful opportunity to join a very successful school. We are a popular oversubscribed two-form entry school. Ofsted judged the school to be outstanding/very good in all areas and, due to the retirement of the present postholder, the Governors will be appointing a new Deputy Head for September 2008.

- The new Deputy should:
 - Have strong leadership and management skills, which will enable us to move forward, combining excellence and enjoyment within the curriculum;
 - Be an exemplary classroom teacher who has a commitment towards collaboration, team-working and inclusion;
 - Be able to manage change and inspire others;
 - Have excellent communication, interpersonal and organisational skills;
 - Have expertise in assessment and experience of data management as a tool for raising standards;
 - Have a proven track record of ICT, management skills and financial experience would be an advantage.

For further information and details please contact the Headteacher.

Visits welcomed.

Please visit our website, www.cecil-road.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: 14 March

Interviews: 25/26 March

Highway Engineer

£24,444 to £28,824

Environment

Shepway District Council requires a highly motivated and enthusiastic Highway Engineer to join the Transportation team. You will be responsible for the effective management of the district's highway responsibilities and will be expected to prepare, advertise and implement traffic regulation orders in relation to parking across the district. You will also be responsible for the maintenance and replacement of streetlights. This is an exciting time to join as we are currently designing a parking scheme for Folkestone Central and you will have the opportunity to shape the development of this and many other new projects.

You must have:

- Substantial relevant post qualification experience in a Highway engineering/transportation/parking environment.
- HNC/HND in Civil Engineering or equivalent.
- Be able to demonstrate a good understanding of local authority highway matters.
- Be self reliant and confident in dealing with complaints and queries relating to parking service, street lights and various highway issues.
- Be able to demonstrate a flexible attitude to work and that you are a good communicator, both written and verbal.

For an informal discussion, please contact Frederick Miller, Transportation Manager on 01303 853207

For application details download at www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk alternatively call our 24 hour answer-phone service on 01303 853481.

The closing date for applications is Friday 14 March 2008.



Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.



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Education Liaison Officer – Medway YOT Ref: CS0903S

Grade B1. Salary £22,122 – £28,919 plus essential car user allowance. 37 hours per week.

Based at the Adolescent Resource Centre, Chatham, Medway Youth Offending Team are seeking to appoint a full-time education liaison officer to work with young people known to the team on education, inclusion and related matters.

We require a resourceful, knowledgeable and proactive person with excellent communication skills to work on an operational level with young people and parents/guardians and also negotiate on a strategic level. You will liaise directly with schools, pupil referral units and related departments in Medway's Children's Services to ensure all young people of statutory school age, who are known to YOT and are experiencing school-related problems, receive appropriate provision and support. The role is a specialist post in the team and the successful candidate will act as a source of advice for colleagues on all education, training, admissions and placement matters, primarily for pupils of statutory school age. This post reports directly to the team's Learning and Skills Development Manager.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure.

For further information or an informal discussion, please contact Mark Walsh on 01634 336236 or 07789 988165 (mobile).

Closing date: 14 March, 2008.

All posts will be open to part-time and job share applicants unless designated as an exception.

To apply

visit www.medway.gov.uk

call **01634 333333**

Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm.

01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

email jobs@medway.gov.uk

quoting the reference.



Medway Adult Learning Service has the following vacancies at various locations throughout Medway:

Curriculum Manager 0.4fte Ref: COM0906L

Sector 1, Health, Public Services and Care, and Sector 7, Retail and Commercial Enterprise. LNFA scale point 4 – 15. Salary £19,847 – £31,954 pro rata.

Curriculum Manager 0.6fte Ref: COM0907L

Sector 8, Leisure, Travel and Tourism. LNFA scale point 4 – 15. Salary £19,847 – £31,954 pro rata.

You responsibilities will include developing and reviewing an exciting and innovative programme of courses to meet current needs of Medway residents and monitoring delivery to ensure that targets are met and effective quality improvement is implemented.

Applicants should have substantial teaching experience and qualified teaching status. A good knowledge of quality standards in adult learning is required, together with relevant management experience.

For an informal discussion relating to job ref. COM0906L, please contact Sohini Patel on 01634 338343 or email sohini.patel@medway.gov.uk

For an informal discussion relating to job ref. COM0907L, please contact Hanife Dacosta on 01634 338456 or email hanife.dacosta@medway.gov.uk

Learning Support Assistant – Skills for Life: Literacy and Numeracy. Two Posts. Ref: COM0910L

Grade D2 (NJC points 12–21). Salary £14,492 – £18,430 pro rata. Two hours per week.

Applicants must have a good general education including GCSE English and Maths or equivalent, and C&G Level 2 certificate in Adult Learner Support, or equivalent.

For an informal discussion, please contact Chris Osborne on 01634 338423.

To apply for the positions above

visit www.medway.gov.uk

call **01634 333333** Mon to Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 9am – 1pm.

01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

email jobs@medway.gov.uk

quoting the appropriate reference.

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recognising their strengths.

To apply for the positions above

write to **Chris Osborne, Medway Adult Learning Service, Rochester Centre, Eastgate, Rochester, Kent ME1 1EW.**

call **Chris Osborne 01634 338423**

email christine.osborne@medway.gov.uk

quoting the appropriate reference.

UK PLATFORMS
THE ONLY WAY IS UP

Require
Sales Representative for the South East
Competitive rates of pay including car

UK Platforms provides a full range of powered access equipment for hire. As a result of the continuing growth in our market we are looking to expand our sales team in the South East.

Operating from our Crawley location, we are looking for a self-motivated sales person with an outgoing personality, excellent communication skills and the ability to work well under pressure.

Responsibilities will include primarily winning new business as well as supporting and developing existing customers. You will have a sales background not necessarily in a plant hire environment although this would be an advantage.

For more information about UK Platforms go to www.ukplatforms.co.uk If you are interested in this position please send your CV to:
**Ben Cross, UK Platforms Ltd,
Unit 3 Dialog, Fleming Way, Crawley, RH10 9NQ**
Or email to bencross@ukplatforms.co.uk
Closing date for applications: Friday 14th March 2008



Hadlow College is Kent's premier land-based college and one of the top three such colleges in the United Kingdom.

The College lies in a picturesque part of West Kent, with a 256 hectare campus boasting an enviable array of facilities to enable students to maximise learning and gain realistic experience of the workplace for their future careers.

A £55 million capital project is planned over the next 2 years, aimed at building the best facilities of their kind in the Country. The first phase, costing £10 million, has already started, which includes a state of the art Art Centre on the main site.

Due to the continued increase in our student numbers and the importance we place on the health and welfare of all our students, we are expanding our Student Support Services team. We therefore have the following job opportunity based at our Satellite Centre in Spring Lane, Canterbury:

Student Services Officer

£19,123 to £21,762 p.a. (pro rata)

Part-time, term time only

We are looking for a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual to provide an enriching programme of events and pastoral care to a range of students, aged 16+.

Duties will include organising and running social, sporting, enrichment and pastoral activities, recording student incidents and ensuring appropriate action is taken as required. The role will also involve assisting with the administration and coordination of student transport for activities in and around Canterbury but also at the main site in Hadlow.

Candidates must have excellent organisation, administration and communication skills, an understanding of student needs and previous experience of working with young adults or a similar client group is essential. A sport or youth work qualification would be useful, as would some knowledge of welfare systems.

This role is part-time working two days per week, or equivalent, term time only.

To receive an information pack and application form please telephone the Human Resources Department on 01732 850551 or e-mail 'jobs@hadlow.ac.uk'.

The closing date is Monday, 17th March 2008.

Visit Hadlow College at www.hadlow.ac.uk

Hadlow College is a committed equal opportunities employer.

Shepway and Ashford 14-19 Planning Forum Strategic Co-ordinator

Salary

£50,000+ pa
(Leadership spine 16-20 or Soubury equivalent)

Location

Kent, South East

Contract Type

2 year fixed term in the first instance

Kent's 14-19 Partnership is managed jointly by Kent County Council, the Learning and Skills Council and Connexions Kent and Medway, together with education providers including schools, FE Colleges, Higher Education Institutions and Work Based Learning Providers. This partnership operates at local level through 9 Planning Forums, two of which cover the areas of Ashford and Shepway.

Each Planning Forum is responsible for driving forward the government's 14-19 reforms to encourage more young people to continue learning for longer and gain the skills and qualifications they need to progress into further education or employment. Central to the reforms are the 14-19 Diplomas which the Strategic Co-ordinator will play a pivotal role in. The primary focus at this stage is delivery of Diplomas but in due course the Co-ordinator will be the driving force behind the planning forums to ensure an appropriate range of provision is available for all young people in the Shepway and Ashford areas to meet the national 14-19 entitlement.

We are seeking to appoint a committed, innovative and motivated individual. You will be able to demonstrate excellent leadership skills, have good project management skills and successful experience of working in partnership with multiple organisations. Applicants must have knowledge and understanding of 14-19 developments nationally and locally, excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to work independently. The work will be based between Shepway and Ashford, flexibility and willingness to travel is essential.

To obtain a full job description please email katherine.daynes@lsc.gov.uk or telephone 0845 019 4152.

The closing date for applications is Monday 24th March 2008 at 12 noon. Interviews will be held during April 2008.

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Deputy Headteacher
Fairview Community Primary
Salary: LS 10 - 14 £43656-£48138
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 14 March 2008

To apply/more information
Fairview Community Primary School
Debbie Milner, Headteacher
Drewry Drive, Wigmore
Gillingham
Kent ME8 0NU
Telephone - (01634) 338710
Email headteacher@fairviewprimary.medway.sch.uk

Assistant Headteacher
Walderslade Primary School
Salary: LS 3 - 7 £36,708 - £40,590
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 20 March 2008

To apply/more information
Mrs A Milne, Headteacher
Walderslade Primary School
Dartlets Road, Walderslade
Chatham
Kent ME5 8BJ
Telephone - (01634) 861660
Email headteacher@walderslade-pri.medway.sch.uk

Headteacher
Maundene School
Job Ref: EDT 990
Full Time and Permanent
Salary: L20-L26 £55,782-£64,611
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 14 March 2008

To apply/more information
Sue Bowers
Medway Council
HR (Schools), Civic Centre
Strood
Kent ME2 4AU
Telephone - (01634) 331100
Email vacancies@medway.gov.uk

SEN

Elaine Primary (Chalklands Opportunity Centre)
SEN
Salary: MPS/UPS + 2 SEN allowance
Part time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 29 March 2008

To apply/more information
Lynne Garnham, Headteacher
Elaine Primary School
Elaine Avenue
Strood
Rochester
Kent ME2 2YN
Telephone - (01634) 718057
Fax - 01634 290191
Email headteacher@elaine.medway.sch.uk

Secondary Schools

Teacher
Chatham Grammar School for Girls
RE
Salary: MPS/UPS
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 7 March 2008

To apply/more information
Emma Chilmaid
Chatham Grammar School for Girls
Rainham Road
Chatham
Kent ME5 7EH
Telephone - (01634) 851262
Fax - 01634 571928
Email chile001@medway.org.uk

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
History
Full Time and permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 12 March

To apply/more information
Ms Jacqueline Harrison
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL
Telephone - (01634) 844008
Email harrison@sjw.maidstone.sch.uk

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
German/Spanish
Full Time and permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 12 March

To apply/more information
Ms Jacqueline Harrison
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL
Telephone - (01634) 844008
Email harrison@sjw.maidstone.sch.uk

Rainham School For Girls
Mathematics Teachers
Full Time and Permanent
Salary: MPS/UPS
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 10 March 2008

Head of Department
Greenacre School
Subject Leader in English
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR 1b (£9,981)
Full Time and Permanent
Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing date: 10 March 2008



Chatham South School

English
Full Time and permanent
Salary: MPS/UPS

Required From: 1 September 2008
Closing Date: 14 March

To apply/more information

Mrs M Chipperfield
Office Manager
Chatham South School
Letchworth Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME4 6NT
Telephone - (01634) 404277
Email chipm002@medway.org.uk

Rainham Mark Grammar School

MFL Spanish/French
Full Time and permanent
Salary: MPS/UPS

Required From: 1 September 2008

Closing Date: 13 March

To apply/more information

School office
Rainham Mark Grammar School
Pump Lane
Gillingham
Kent ME8 7AJ
Telephone - (01634) 364151
Email office@rainhammark.maidstone.sch.uk

To apply/more information

Mr A J Reese, Headteacher
Greenacre School
(A Specialist Sports College)
Bradfields Avenue, Chatham
Kent ME5 0LE
Telephone - (01634) 861593
Fax - 01634 889246
Email office@greenacre.medway.sch.uk

Chatham South

ICT
Salary: MPS/UPS + TLR c
Full Time and Permanent

Required From: 1 September 2008

Closing date: 14 March 2008

To apply/more information

Mrs M Chipperfield
Office Manager
Chatham South
Letchworth Avenue
Chatham
Kent ME4 6NT
Telephone: 01634 404277
Fax - 01634 889246
Email headteacher@chathamsouth.medway.sch.uk

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Rivermead

General Subjects
Salary: MPS/UPS + SEN Allowance £1818

Full Time and Permanent

Required From: 1 September 2008

Closing Date: 10 March

To apply/more information

Mrs Jacqueline Harrison
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Maidstone Road
Rochester
Kent ME1 3EL
Telephone - (01634) 844008
Email harrison@sjw.maidstone.sch.uk

Abbey Court Community Special School

SEN
Salary: MPS/UPS + 2 SEN points Full Time and temporary

Required From: 21 April 2008

Closing date: 14 March 2008

To apply/more information

Linda Taylor, Business Manager
Abbey Court School
Rede Court Road
Rochester
Kent ME2 3SP
Telephone - (01634) 338224
Email office@abbeycourt.medway.sch.uk

- "EXCELLENT" CPA RATING
- SOCPO 2005 WORK-LIFE BALANCE AWARD

HOTFOOT SUMMER PLAYSCHMES 2008

Are you qualified, experienced, available from Monday 28th July until Friday 22nd August 2008 and looking for an exciting opportunity to work on HOTFOOT Summer Play schemes?

Various positions available from Playleaders through to Site Managers.

For an application pack or further information please phone (01622) 602555 or e-mail: recruitment@maidstone.gov.uk or visit www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk/sports

Closing date for applications: Friday 19th March 2008.

Interview dates: Wednesday 2nd April and Thursday 17th April 2008.

Parish Playschemes: For more information about Hotfoot or Community led schemes phone the Sports and Play Development Team on (01622) 602222.



Finance Manager

Starting salary £57,507, with progression through contribution related pay to £67,081 per annum

Sessions House, Maidstone

As an 'excellent' Local Authority, Kent has a dynamic and high profile Children, Families and Education Directorate. The Finance Unit is an innovative and fast moving function, with highly motivated staff, ambitious in their drive to improve services to schools and service managers.

An experienced and effective finance manager, you will work closely with the Director of Finance and Corporate Services to deliver financial excellence. Your outstanding technical skills will allow you to convey complex financial information to schools and Directorate budget managers. Your communication skills will allow you to work with Members, The Directorate Managing Director, Directors and other senior officers on a regular basis.

You will show strong leadership skills and the ability to motivate and manage excellence in others. You will also be committed, flexible and show a natural affinity for team working. Ref: CFE/08/0048.

Closing date: midday, 7 March 2008.

Clerking Agency Manager

Starting salary £19,572 with progression through contribution related pay to £22,268 pro rata

Term Time only – hours are negotiable to the right candidate.

Office based in Maidstone, The ability to travel to all parts of the county will be required

It will be your responsibility to oversee our countywide clerking service – making sure that it runs as efficiently and effectively as possible ensuring we are meeting all the standards in our service level agreements. You will co-ordinate recruitment, manage staff deployment, promote the service and contribute to its development and growth.

Along with an NVQ3 (or equivalent) qualification in Business Administration or Management, and a good knowledge of governing body procedures you will also be an experienced clerk to a governing body. Couple this with strong ICT skills, a confident approach, a flair for managing conflicting priorities and a willingness to undertake some of your hours during the evenings; this could be the beginning of a rewarding career. Ref: CFE/08/0062

Closing date: midday, 10 March 2008.

The Alternative Curriculum Co-ordinator in Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley have the following vacancies to work part-time.

Personal Assistant to the Alternative Curriculum Co-Ordinator

Starting salary £16,221 with progression through contribution related pay to £17,842 pro rata

18.5 hours per week

Joynes House, Gravesham

You will be supporting this management post within the Childrens' Services Clusters in the area. The co-ordinator is a KCC Manager responsible for placing 'hard to place' children in education provision.

You will ideally be able to provide evidence of the ability to work effectively in such a supporting role: this includes dealing with parents, other Childrens' Services agencies and schools but not directly with young people. Ref: CFE/08/0061

Teaching Assistant

Starting salary £13,619 with progression through contribution related pay to £15,440 pro rata

20 Hours per week Term Time only

Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley

You will be supporting disengaged and disaffected KS4 students in the area.

You will have to provide evidence of effective working with disengaged KS4 students and have a proven commitment to curriculum innovation. Ref: CFE/08/0059

The above two posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

For an informal discussion about the above 2 posts, please contact Joanne Kendall on 01474 544582.

Closing date for the above two posts: midday, 6 March 2008.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote the appropriate reference number.



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Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its excellent reputation.

Currently, located at four sites in Maidstone, Chatham and Rochester we will open our new £82 million campus to students in September 2009.

We are looking for individuals who will encourage learning for life and enhance our existing teams in the following areas:



Lecturer in Health, Social & Childcare Programmes Ref: P0063

Lecturer Grade B: £25,092 - £28,719

The post-holder will be involved in the delivery and teaching of Health, Social & Childcare from foundation to level 3, Edexcel/CACHE programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within either Health, Social Care or Childcare environments. The department will also consider applications for candidates who are interested in hourly paid or part-time teaching. Please note the closing date for this post is Friday, 10 March 2008.

Marketing & Communications Ref: P0610

Support Grade F: £23,669 - £30,027

You'll be responsible for managing all the College's internal and external communications, including writing and editing the weekly staff newsletter, press releases, and maintaining the relevant areas of the College website. Additional duties will include writing copy for advertising campaigns in a variety of media and performing other marketing activities as required.

You should be educated to HND/degree standard, with excellent verbal and written communication skills and have the ability to work flexibly - often under pressure to meet tight deadlines. Experience in a similar role would be an advantage. Ability to travel between sites is essential.

Assistant Accountants

In order to strengthen the central Finance team and support the College as it progresses through a period of radical change, we are aiming to make three appointments:

Post 1 - Circa £15,000 + training package Ref: P0605

The successful candidate will work as part of the Credit Control team and will have ACCA/CIMA level 1 qualification or equivalent (e.g. AAT)

Post 2 - Circa £20,000 + training package Ref: P0606

The post-holder will work with the Financial Management team and will be a part-qualified accountant.

Post 3 - Circa £25,000 + training package Ref: P0607

Working with the Financial Management team you will have either recently qualified or be at the finalist stage of your qualification.

All applicants will need to be able to demonstrate recent and relevant knowledge and experience in finance and a good understanding of computerised systems. In return you will be expected to complete a full ACCA or CIMA accounting qualification within a specified timeframe.

Work Placement Co-ordinator Ref: P0509 (Term-Time)

Support Grade C: £16,199 - £20,324 pro-rata

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic professional to place, monitor and assess students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in their work placements. The candidate will be able to work with minimum guidance, prioritise work effectively and demonstrate excellent organisational skills. The successful candidate will have a previous experience in a childcare profession e.g. nursery education, health visiting or social services.

College Information Services Assistant Ref: P0615

(Fixed-Term to July 2009 15hrs per week)

Support Grade A: £11,599 - £16,199 pro-rata

The post will provide assistance to the existing CIS team in updating information systems. Ideally, the successful candidate will have 5 GCSEs at Grade A* - C or equivalent, including English and Mathematics. The department will also consider applications for candidates who are interested in term-time only working.

Technician in Hair Design Ref: P0044 (Part-Time 18.5 hours per week)

Support Grade A: £11,599 - £16,199 pro-rata

We are looking to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide guidance and support to students and assist with the running of various classes. The successful candidate will have good organisational and communication skills and have relevant experience within Hair Design.

Technician in Wood Occupations Ref: P0366

Support Grade B: £15,057 - £18,534

As a member of Construction Crafts team you will undertake all support duties associated with craft workshops as directed by teaching or instructing staff. You will have experience working in a relevant occupation and be able to demonstrate good organisational skills.

Administration Assistant/DSA (Rochester & Maidstone) Ref: P0544 (Part-Time 18 hours per week)

Support Grade A: £11,599 - £16,199

You will provide efficient and effective day-to-day administrative support and assistance to at least one department. You will have excellent administrative skills and experience using Microsoft Office applications. The successful applicant will be based at either our Rochester or Maidstone Campus therefore please state your preferred site on your application.

Sessional/Hourly Paid Facilitators Ref: HPS Basic Hourly Rate: £8.93 (£9.98 including holiday component)

Sessional Facilitators are required to work with individuals/groups of learners on curriculum support programmes devised by the curriculum staff and/or CAST Tutors. A clear empathy for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities and good communication skills are essential.

Apprentice in Administration Ref: P0594 (1-year Fixed-Term Contract)

Grade A: based on percentage of £9,631

As a member of the Business Development Team you will provide administration support to College stakeholders. The successful candidate will develop competencies to meet NVQ Level 2 Standards of performance.

All posts are full-time (37 hours per week) unless otherwise stated. The benefits of joining Mid-Kent College include generous annual leave, final salary pension scheme, flexible working and on-site gym.

All posts are subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk quoting the appropriate job title and number.

Closing date: Friday, 21 March 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.



LOOKING FOR A NEW DIRECTION?

Canterbury branch Claire t: 01227 454239 e: canterbury@hrgokent.co.uk
 Soldering role £6 p/h Herne Bay Ref: KOSCA103
 Administrator £13.5k Canterbury Ref: KOSCA756
 Business Systems Manager £40k Herne Bay Ref: KOSCA761
 Supply Quality Engineer £20K - £25k Whitstable Ref: KOSCA759
 Telesales £6 p/h Canterbury Ref: KOSCA607
 Various Admin Roles £7 p/h and up Sandwich Ref: KOSPF0001

Chatham branch t: 01634 811494 e: chatham@hrgokent.co.uk
 Anita t: 01634 811494 e: chatham@hrgokent.co.uk
 Sales Executive £15k +OTE up to £35k Maidstone Ref: KOSCH761
 Management Information Analyst Negotiable Chatham Ref: KOSCH770

Jane t: 01634 811494 e: chatham@hrgokent.co.uk
 Contracts Administrator circa £25k DOE Rochester Ref: KOSCH5602
 Customer Service £6.50 p/h Chatham Ref: KOSCH1843

Dartford branch Grace t: 01322 277555 e: dartford@hrgokent.co.uk
 Estimator £25K - £30K Dartford Ref: KOSDA995
 Telesales Advisor £15K - £17K Dartford Ref: KOSDA969
 Business Development Manager Negotiable Borough Green Ref: KOSDA1032
 Test Engineer £20K Thamesmead Ref: KOSDA1000

Other branches: Ashford Bromley Folkestone Ramsgate
 35 Bank Street 2nd Floor Unit 3, Aspen House 20 Queen Street
 T: 01233 634242 25 Market Square 11 West Terrace T: 01843 591798
 T: 0208 460 8100 T: 01303 850729

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Abbey Court School "WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for 2

TEMPORARY TEACHERS FOR PUPILS WITH SEVERE AND PROFOUND LEARNING DIFFICULTIES

Starting 21st April until 23rd July 2008 (fixed term contract)

MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 14th March 2008

For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP (Tel: 01634 338224)

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BRADSTOW SCHOOL



Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

£38,404 - £40,962 per annum – 37 hours per week – All Year Round

The Governing Body is seeking a School Business Manager, who will be well qualified and have sound management experience, not necessarily in education. To meet this challenge, the successful candidate will have a recognised management qualification, ideally with at least three years' experience in middle management. In addition, they will have:

- A proven track record of leadership, and the ability to be a leading member of a Senior Management Team
- Sound experience of financial management and budgetary planning and control
- Knowledge of human resources management
- An ability to identify, research, develop, cost and implement new initiatives
- Knowledge of change management and project management
- Experience of IT networks and applications
- A high level of oral and written communication skills.

Relocation expenses may be available.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 862123 during normal office hours (9a.m. to 5p.m. Mon to Fri), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Friday 7th March 2008.

Selection events will take place on 25th March and 1st April 2008

achievement development experience employability

Sheppey College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opens in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:
 Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Office Skills
 Post Ref: SH/OS/KOS

Text & Word Processing
 Post Ref: SH/TWP/KOS

Senior Learning Resources Officer
 37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum
 Post Ref: SJ/KOS

Supply NVQ Assessors/Internal Verifiers are required in the following areas:
 Various hours available, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum

Administration
Customer Service
Retail
Hairdressing
Beauty
Construction
Please specify your area of expertise in your application form
 Post Ref: SH/Assessor/KOS

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 17 March at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

34 Dumpton Park Drive
 Broadstairs, Kent
 CT10 1BY

All appointments are subject to a CRB check

All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview.

Bradstow School is an equal opportunities employer

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

e ACTION FOR BUSINESS COLLEGE

Matrix

Wandsworth

BAYADA NURSES
Bayada Nurses, a US based company with over 33 years experience in Healthcare, are now operating in the UK.
We are currently recruiting for
Health Care Assistants/Support Workers/Registered Nurses
To cover all Kent Areas
We are looking for reliable, caring, compassionate and flexible people to join our ever growing team.
We support our care staff to achieve NVQ qualifications and our nursing staff to meet their PREP requirements.
For further details and an application pack please contact Julie Epsley Free on 0800 084 2200 (9.00am - 10.00pm) Email: info@bayada.co.uk
These positions are subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure

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We're working hard to deliver quality services to our local community. And our exceptional reputation speaks volumes about our success. On top of this, we ensure the very best working environment for all our staff - offering development and encouraging diversity at every level.



Community Involvement Workers

Starting salary £19,572, with progression through contribution related pay to £22,268 per annum (pro rata for part-time)

We are seeking to recruit Community Involvement Workers to work in Children's Centres across Tonbridge and Malling. You will work as part of multi-agency team, raising awareness in the community about the range of services on offer in the centres. For those families who do not use the Children's Centres, you will provide important information and access to services.

You will ensure that the views of children and their families and those of the wider community are sought and included in the development of services in the Children's Centres. You will need to have strong interpersonal skills with an enthusiastic, tactful and flexible approach. You will need to demonstrate a clear understanding of how to support the most vulnerable families to access services to improve the outcomes for children. The role will include the co-ordination of the recruitment, training and management of volunteers to support the running of the Children's Centre. The Malling post could offer opportunities for part-time working.

Tonbridge Ref: CFE/08/0071

Malling Ref: CFE/08/0072

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To find out more please contact Dion Darley on 01622 626761 or email: dion.darley@kent.gov.uk

Closing date for both posts: midday, 18 March 2008.

Interview date for the Malling post: 24 April 2008.

Interview date for the Tonbridge post: 30 April 2008.

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c. £17,500 - £29,000 pa inc

(Progression dependant upon examination)

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We are looking for two people to train as finance professionals. You must have a genuine interest in the public sector, communication skills and commitment to a career as a finance professional.

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Closing date: midday, 7th March 2008.

To apply for any of these posts visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote appropriate reference number.

Children's Centre Manager

Starting salary £29,190, with progression through contribution related pay to £34,507 per annum

For this post, you will need to lead an integrated team to work in partnership with parents and carers and a range of partners and organisations across Kent to meet the specific needs of children under five and their families. With a degree, or equivalent qualification in health, social work, education, community work, childcare or a similar field, you must be able to lead a multi-agency service, demonstrating excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

You will also have the National Professional Qualification in Integrated Centre Leadership or be willing to work towards this qualification.

Tonbridge Ref: CFE/08/0070

Interviews date: 22 April 2008.

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the University of Greenwich at Medway

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ref: 00935/K3

Based in the University's Partnership Division you will undertake a range of secretarial and administrative duties to support the Partnership Division with a primary focus on the administration and development of Widening Participation activities and projects.

You will have a good level of secondary education, strong IT skills with a sound knowledge of Microsoft Access, PowerPoint and Word and the ability to work with a wide range of client groups, staff and students.

You will need experience of working to tight deadlines, be prepared to travel to other University campuses, work flexible hours at peak times and be able to work on your own initiative with a minimum of supervision.

Salary Scale: £18,702 - £21,682 per annum inclusive.

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

Further particulars and application form can be obtained from the Personnel Department, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG Email: Jobs@gre.ac.uk quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5.00 pm on 14 March 2008.



All Saints Sure Start Children's Centre has the following vacancies based at our centre in Magpie Hall Road, Chatham.

Building Operations Manager

Ref: CS0899S

Grade C2. Salary £18,907 – £25,320

37 hours per week.

With responsibility for everything from health, safety and security to repairs, maintenance and cleaning – you will ensure that our building and grounds are a safe and pleasant place for our staff and the 700+ visitors that use the centre every week. With a team of administrative staff and caretakers, you will maintain the high quality of support services that everyone has come to expect at our busy centre. Previous experience of managing buildings and staff is essential, as is a flexible and innovative style.

Catering Assistant –

Healthy Eating Community Café

Ref: CS0900S

Grade D1. Salary £12,291 – £15,842

37 hours per week.

You will be involved with the day-to-day running of the café, including preparing and cooking food, stock control and serving. Other duties will include handling cash and cleaning the café and kitchen areas. You will also help provide meals to our on-site, full day-care facility and prepare and deliver refreshment orders to the rest of the centre. Previous experience of working in catering required.

Administrative Assistant

Ref: CS0901S

Grade D1. Salary £12,291 – £15,842

37 hours per week.

As part of a small and busy administrative team, you will undertake varied duties to support staff in the centre. These will range from reception work and taking notes at meetings to filing and maintaining office systems. Good customer service skills and administrative experience are essential.

Any offer of appointment will be subject to a Criminal Records Bureau enhanced disclosure.

For more information on any of these posts, please contact the centre on 01634 338833.

Closing date for all applications is Friday, 7 March 2008.

Interviews are likely to take place at the beginning of April.

All posts will be open to part-time and job share applicants unless designated as an exception.

To apply

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01634 332843 24-hour answerphone.

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Registry Manager

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £36,360 per annum

Post Ref: 04/169/KOS

Interviews to be held on 28 March 2008

Infrastructure Team Leader (Computing Support)

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £23,651 per annum

Post Ref: NT1/L/KOS

Senior Nursery Officer – Education and Curriculum

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 per annum

Post Ref: 06/04/KOS

Pre 16 Learning Support

25 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.

Salary starting from £10,364 pro rata per annum

Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010

Post Ref: 07/17/KOS

Trainer Demonstrator Sport & Leisure

9.25 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 08/26/KOS

Learning Support - Basic Skills & ESOL

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.

Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: 06/52/KOS

Temporary Senior Administrator for Work Based Learning

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Temporary post up to 1 May 2009 to cover maternity leave

Post Ref: ATC1/KOS

Temporary Train to Gain Administrator

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum.

Temporary post up to 16 January 2009 to cover maternity leave

Post Ref: 07/83/KOS

Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,727-£25,418 pro rata per annum

Early Years

Post Ref: NVQ/EY/KOS

Play work

Post Ref: NVQ/PW/KOS

Supply Recreation Assistant

Various hours available, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Post Ref: S/RA/KOS

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 17 March at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

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Section Manager Construction Crafts

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £32,808 per annum
Post Ref: 08/12/KOS

We require a dynamic individual to manage the Construction Crafts provision in the College. It is essential to have experience of working in at least one area of wood, brick or block.

The successful candidate will have excellent leadership skills, good oral and written communication skills, a strong focus on quality and experience of teaching.

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above post is Monday 17 March at 12 noon.
Interviews to be held on 3 April 2008

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
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Temporary Section Manager Sports, Leisure, Travel & Tourism

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £32,808 per annum

One year temporary post to cover maternity leave

Interviews to be held on 2 April 2008

Post Ref: 08/27/KOS

Lecturer Construction Crafts

37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Post Ref: 08/14/KOS



Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Science/Chemistry (to teach ND Science/A/S/A levels)

Post Ref: S/58C/KOS

A/S/A level Archaeology

Post Ref: S/Arc/KOS

A/S/A level Economics

Post Ref: S/Eco/KOS

Supply Lecturers required to teach at the Corporate IT Centre in the following areas:

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Desk Top Publishing , Web Design, Programming,

Computer Aided Design, IT Maintenance, Networking

Microsoft Office to Advanced level (using Vista and Office 2007)

Please specify your area of expertise in your application form

Post Ref: S/Corp/KOS

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 17 March at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
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Accounts Assistant

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Main duties include:

- Co-ordinate completion and distribution of monthly management accounts.
- Responsible for the accurate completion of monthly P&L expenditure analysis.
- Assist in completion of the year end accounting pack.
- Accurate processing of supplier invoices and employee expenses.
- Ensure that all processing is completed in time for month end.
- Reconcile company bank accounts regularly.
- Assist with the development of new computer accounting systems.

CLOSING DATE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS: 15/3/08

To apply, please email your CV to recruitment@mackmultiples.com or send it to Recruitment Team, Mack, Transfesa Road, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6UT
www.mwmack.co.uk
 Telephone 01892 835577

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Employee Services Team Manager

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Along with experience of managing within a personnel and/or payroll environment, you'll need strong evaluation skills and a talent for implementing change. You should also demonstrate a solutions-orientated attitude and a great eye for detail. Ref: CED/08/0023

Interview date: 19th March 2008.

Employee Services Team Assistant

Permanent and temporary positions available,
 part-time considered

Salary £15,440 to £19,572 pa*

If you're of graduate calibre or have personnel, recruitment or payroll experience and enjoy working in a fast-paced, customer focused environment this role could be ideal.

Providing a professional personnel and payroll service you'll prepare and collate personnel and payroll information and review office systems and procedures, recommending enhancements where appropriate. This is an excellent chance for a motivated individual to broaden their skills and help shape our future services. Ref: CED/08/0024

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs or email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904 quoting the appropriate reference number.

*Salary with progression through contribution related pay

Closing date for both posts: 11th March 2008.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION PREMISES LICENCE

An application for a premises licence has been made by Alan Azat to Medway Council in regards to the premises known as **Sendas Kebab House** which is situated at 6 Skinner Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 1HD. The purpose of the application is as follows: Provision of Late Night Refreshment Late Night Refreshments 4pm till 4am. A Record of application maybe inspected by Licensing Service Team, Public Protection Division, Medway Council; Annex A First Floor, Civic Centre Strood Rochester, KENT ME2 4AU. During Normal Office hours Monday to Friday. Any representative by interested parties or responsible authorities regarding the application must be made in writing to the Licensing Service Team, Public Protection Division, Medway Council; Annex A First Floor, Civic Centre Strood Rochester, KENT ME2 4AU by 29 March 2008. It is an offence liable on summary conviction to fine up to Level 5 (£5000) on the standard scale to knowingly make a false statement in connection with the application.

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Get in the driving seat for hospice charity race

BIZLINX will host a charity event at Buckmore Park kart circuit on March 13 and is challenging businesses to take part.

Companies from Medway, Maidstone and Swale must put together a team of six racers, purchase a kart for £280 and pledge to raise £1,000 sponsorship.

The event aims to raise £30,000 for the Heart of Kent Hospice in Aylesford and Demelza House children's hospice in Bobbing.

Call Lis Joyce on 01622 620850 or Julie Anderson on 01622 663232.

Mums and dads fail to make most of vouchers

THOUSANDS of parents working for small businesses in Kent are missing out on financial help which could save them more than £1,000 a year.

Research by Childcare Choice showed that only one in 100 working parents employed by small or medium-sized enterprises have signed up for the Government's childcare vouchers.

Most mums and dads who pay for childcare are entitled to savings of up to £1,195 a year.

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Get the low-down on key health and safety issues impacting on business

Car benefit changes fuel firms to rethink



BUSINESSES in the county offering company car and fuel benefits to staff need to urgently evaluate their current policy before April, according to a leading firm of chartered accountants.

The Pre-Budget Report shake-up of employee car fuel benefit will take effect from April 6, which could see some people's company car tax bill rise by nearly a quarter.

But wise employees should ensure sensible management of their tax allowance and experts can advise the best way to maximise benefits.

To avoid the tax increases bosses need to look at only providing company cars for part of the year and giving staff a mileage allowance

■ BY JON COATES

for business travel instead of fuel benefits.

Richard Marshall, tax specialist at HW Chartered Accountants, said: "The car fuel benefit is set to increase considerably from April 6 this year and many workers will be clobbered with a hefty tax rise.

"With such large increases expected, employers need to sit down with staff now and determine whether they would be better off providing their own fuel and claiming a mileage allowance for business travel.

"In most circumstances, workers would be best off doing this as to make car fuel benefit financially efficient after April private mileage needs to be high – as much as 10,000 to 12,000

miles per year."

Car fuel benefit occurs when employers provide fuel cards, credit cards or vouchers to cover the total cost of private and business mileage.

And because each case is unique there is no blanket advice for everyone.

Mr Marshall added: "Working out car fuel benefit is complex and changes for individual employees due to differing levels of benefit.

"There are ways to help reduce an employee's car tax bill that we can advise on, such as only making a company car available for part of the year or only making fuel available for business travel."

For advice Richard Marshall can be contacted at HW chartered accountants, in Armstrong Road, Maidstone, on 01622 692255.



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Medway to pitch in for the Olympics

Picture PHILL HUGHTON



ON TARGET: Gillingham's Beechings Way training ground could host football and archery ahead of London 2012

THE prospect of world class athletes training in Medway before the 2012 Olympics drew a step closer this week as five of the area's sporting venues were identified as potential training camps.

The London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) unveiled a list of 600 possible sites in the UK which could be used by athletes before London 2012.

In total 36 facilities in Kent were chosen, with only Canterbury getting more recommended sites than Medway.

The key venue will be Medway Park, which is undergoing an £11million refurbishment to develop a regional centre of sporting excellence.

OLYMPIC GAMES

It will be able to host 13 different events, from badminton and boxing to gymnastics and fencing.

Elsewhere Gillingham FC's facilities will be considered for football and archery, while the Jumpers Rebound Centre will be among the favourites to hold the world's best trampoline teams.

Howard Table Tennis Centre and Castlemaine Badminton Centre were also included in the shortlist.

They will be included in a guide distributed to all other Olympic associations at this summer's Beijing

Olympics. From this the national teams will decide which facilities they want to train in to prepare for the London Games.

Steve Waud, manager of the Howard Table Tennis Centre, said: "The centre has gone from strength to strength since it opened in 2005, and to potentially have an Olympic team come here to train would be fantastic for us."

At the launch in Buckinghamshire, Sebastian Coe, chairman of LOCOG, said: "The facilities listed in this Guide will really help overseas athletes prepare well."

"It also provides a great opportunity for towns throughout the UK to get involved in our plans."

Medway closing in on promotion

MEDWAY RFC could secure back-to-back promotions if they can win their next league fixture, after they narrowly beat HSBC 11-9 at Priestfields on Saturday.

The visitors took the lead but Danny Williams scored the only try of the game to haul Medway in front.

The victory keeps Taff Gwilliam's side one point clear at the top of Kent 2 with two games remaining.

Medway can seal back-to-back promotions in their next league game later this month if they can beat Brockleians and nearest rivals Vigo lose.

The team's next game is against Orpington in the Kent Vase on March 15.

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FA skills coaches developing a new style of training for county's young

Holcs eye league and cup double

HOLCOMBE Ladies continued their sparkling season by reaching the Kent Cup final with a 4-0 win against Folkestone on Sunday.

Jennie Hoyte, Marlisse Joubert, Debbie Laing and Lauren Osborn all got on the score sheet as the hosts eased to a comfortable victory.

The win came a week after the team won the East Women's Hockey Premier League and kept alive hopes of a league and cup double.

In their first game since winning the title, Holcombe suffered a shock 4-3 defeat to Chelmsford on Saturday.

PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT
glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk



BAND OF BROTHERS: Leroy Griffiths believes socialising with each other away from training will help improve Gillingham's results in the final two months of the season

Picture KEITH SLATER

Team bonding to pull Gills through to safety

LEROY Griffiths believes the Gillingham squad are starting to build a strong bond which will help them escape relegation this season.

The 31-year-old is one of nine players signed on permanent deals by manager Mark Stimson since his arrival in November.

The former QPR striker told Yourmedway it has taken a long time for the squad to get to know each other, but believes they are finally striking up a rapport.

Relaxed

He said: "Everywhere you go in football there are cliques, players you are more comfortable with. But the team now is more relaxed as we start to get to know each other."

"We go out to dinner and do things much more as a team – if you can do that off the pitch you will be stronger on the pitch."

Griffiths has been mainly used as an impact substitute since his arrival three months ago,

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Gillingham 0 Yeovil 0

coming off the bench for the final 20 minutes if the side need a goal.

While he admits it has been a frustrating period personally, he is prepared to be patient.

He said: "You have got to go with the manager's decision, he knows when it's right to bring in players at the right time."

"So far, every time he has brought me on I have been able to do a job. Hopefully, I have done enough to show I am fit enough and able enough to continue what he saw in me at the beginning, and if I get a chance I'm going to take it."

Griffiths earned only his second start for the club in Saturday's goalless draw against Yeovil Town at Priestfield.

Stimson stuck with the 3-4-3 formation which overcame Huddersfield a week earlier. He opted to leave striker Simeon Jackson on the bench after four barren starts since his arrival in the January transfer window.

Griffiths and Delroy Facey were given starts and they combined well in a tight first half.

The hosts dominated after the break, but created few clear-cut chances to take the lead. The closest they came was in the 71st minute when Yeovil skipper Terry Skiverton diverted a John Nutter free-kick on to his own post.

The visitors played the final 15 minutes with ten men after Stephen Maher received a straight red card for a two-footed lunge on Simon King.

Gills flooded forward but could not find a way past and had to settle for a third goalless draw in four games in front of their home fans.

They had the chance to move three points clear of the bottom four when they took on rivals Brighton & Hove Albion last night.

• Visit www.yourmedway.co.uk to see the full match report.

DYNAMOS' double play-off disaster

FOOTBALL

■ BY YOUR MEDWAY REPORTER

THE Invicta Dynamos have made a disastrous start to their play-off campaign, losing both their opening games.

Saturday's trip to the unbeaten Peterborough Islanders was arguably the toughest possible opening fixture for the Mos, and with six players unavailable they crashed to a predictable 8-3 defeat.

The Islanders set the tone early on, smashing into Alex Shaw long after the puck had left his stick. They continued to hit the Mos hard and often, before finally taking the lead when Jesse Hammill flicked past Ian Rowlands in the fifth minute.

When Peterborough's Ross Mackintosh was called for a late hit the Mos took advantage, AJ Smith equalising, but Mackintosh restored the lead within seconds and even with two men off the field Peterborough extended their lead through Craig Britton.

The shell-shocked Mos were 5-1 down at the break, but despite conceding a sixth they looked a far better side in the second period, and two quick goals from AJ and Andy Smith around the half-hour mark kept them in the hunt.

However, with less than a minute to go in the period, Britton scored a psychologically damaging goal to make it 7-3 going into the final 20 minutes.

Andy Smith was twice thwarted by the Peterborough netminder in the closing stages, but the only goal of the last period went to the home side.

Invicta were still licking their wounds when they travelled to Streatham the following day and had few complaints about their 2-1 defeat.

Streatham's Jerry Paylus made it 1-0 after 23 minutes and though the Mos equalised on the powerplay when Peter Carey slotted in Elliot Andrews' neat drop pass, Shane Walsh scored the South London side's winner in the 45th minute.



SEVENTH HELL: Ian Rowlands had a torrid game at Peterborough, conceding seven goals before he was replaced by Glen Jackson for the final period.

Dominant Chats end losing streak

FOOTBALL

Chatham Town 1
Walton Casuals 0

A FIRST goal for Steve Hafner was enough to end Chatham Town's five-game winless run and significantly ease the club's relegation worries.

Played on a difficult Maidstone Road pitch, the Chats dominated the game and had chances to make the score line more emphatic.

Town boss Steve Binks was relieved to get a first win since January.

He told Yourmedway: "I'm absolutely delighted, it is a big three points for us. I think we thoroughly deserved the win and on another day we could have had two or three more goals."

"I didn't make any substitutes until injury time and that was because I couldn't fault the effort and desire from everybody. The pressure has been mounting a

bit and it's important to pick up points at home."

Despite the testing surface, the Chats at times strung several passes together and they claimed the winning goal from one such move just before half-time.

After some precise interplay in midfield, the ball was played forward to Hafner down the left. The winger, who was only making his second appearance since joining the club, tried his luck from the edge of the box and saw his shot loop into the top corner.

In the second half, the hosts had a good shout for a penalty turned down when Rob Denness was felled in the box and Shane Suter had a chance ruled out for offside.

The win moved the Chats up to 15th, ten points clear of the bottom two ahead of Saturday's trip to Worthing.

Binks praised his whole team but singled out new signings Hafner and Denness.

He said: "As a partnership playing together for the first time,



USING HIS HEAD: Rob Denness is improving with every game as he regains match fitness

I was really pleased. Rob needs some matches under his belt because he hasn't played much football lately, but he worked his socks off and I can see only good things coming from those two."

PLAYER FOCUS



OLD HEAD: Danny Cullip has helped shore up the Gills defence

New Gills ace happy to stay down South

GILLINGHAM'S newest signing, Danny Cullip, turned down offers from sides in the Championship to come and play at Priestfield.

The 31-year-old was released by QPR in November and after three months without a club joined Gills on non-contract terms last month.

Although he was keen to find a new club, the former Brighton defender turned down deals because he did not want to uproot his young family and move across the country.

He told Yourmedway: "I had a few clubs I could have gone to earlier but they were in the wrong areas for me."

"I had just moved my family back down from up north and I wasn't willing to go back again. I had offers but I was just waiting for the right one to come – there were a couple of Championship clubs and another couple from League One."

Cullip was recommended to Gills boss Mark Stimson by QPR and he spent time in January training with the squad. After seeing the set-up at the club the experienced centre-back was keen to join.

He said: "It was somewhere I wanted to come to, I have got friends who have played here, I know people who are here now and when I spoke to them they said good things about the place."

Despite spending nearly five months out of competitive football, Cullip did not look off the pace as he marshalled the defence to clean sheets in his first two games for the club.

After a long career peppered with promotion and relegation, he could be of vital importance to keeping Gills out of trouble in League One.

He said: "We are in a relegation fight at the moment. At these sorts of times it is important everyone sticks together."

"We have eight games in March and hopefully they will shape our season. However we get the results, you have got to have the fight from the beginning."

"The boys have got to win the battle, whether it takes ten minutes or 90."

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Gillingham striker Leroy Griffiths talks about recent team bonding

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